

10-28-2008

The Daily Gamecock, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2008

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/gamecock_2008_oct

Recommended Citation

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media, "The Daily Gamecock, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2008" (2008). *October*. 4.
https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/gamecock_2008_oct/4

This Newspaper is brought to you by the 2008 at Scholar Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in October by an authorized administrator of Scholar Commons. For more information, please contact dillarda@mailbox.sc.edu.



The Mix
'Man on Wire' is a tightly wound tightrope tale. See page 7

Sports
Ray Tanner is signed on to coach baseball until 2013. See page 10



The Daily Gamecock

dailygamecock.com

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2008

VOL. 102, NO. 54 • SINCE 1908

Ocean Isle: Rising from the ashes

Survivor of beach house tragedy recalls events of one year ago, celebrates lives of friends, roommate

Sean Gruber
STAFF WRITER

Fallon Sposato remembers how amazed she was by the house where she stayed at Ocean Isle Beach, N.C., last October.

"It's funny. I called my Dad when I got there to tell him I was alright," the third-year accounting student said. "I remember telling him how big and pretty the house was, and he said, 'Don't break anything.'"

After ordering pizza and hanging out with the other 12 students at the beach on Saturday, Sposato went to sleep at around 3 a.m. Sunday. Her thoughts revolved around her digital camera, which she had lost.

"I thought that I would wake up the next day and find it, and that everyone would make fun of me for making such a big deal out of it," Sposato said. "Everything was just typical. It was a typical weekend."

But instead of friends and cameras, Sposato woke to the fire alarm and smoke. She would never think of this weekend as "typical" again.

"I remember hearing it in my sleep, and it took me a few minutes

to realize it was for real," Sposato said. "I grabbed my blanket and ran out the front door. I had a room near the front of the building, so I was fortunate."

At the time, it didn't occur to Sposato that she would be one of the first ones out. But as she stood outside the burning building, she knew the situation was much worse than she thought.

"The house was engulfed," Sposato said. "We knew that seven others were still inside. And when I saw the building, I realized if they weren't standing next to me at the time, they were not coming out."

Fallon Sposato, a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority, was one of the six survivors of the Ocean Isle fire. Six USC students and one Clemson University student died in the blaze.

"We were all close friends," Sposato said. "We were a tight-knit group. We pretty much did

SURVIVOR • 4



Logan Wallace / The Associated Press

Firefighters work at the scene of the Ocean Isle Beach house that burned and resulted in the deaths of seven students on Oct. 28, 2007.

FOREVER TO THEE: CAROLINA REMEMBERS



Travis Cale
The 19-year-old, first-year business student from Greenville was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He went to J.L. Mann High School and was the boyfriend of Emily Yelton.



Allison Walden
The 19-year-old, second-year exercise science student from Chagrin Falls, Ohio was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority. She went to Chagrin Falls High School.



Justin Anderson
The 19-year-old, second-year student from Greenville was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He went to J.L. Mann High School.



Lauren Mahon
The 18-year-old, first-year business student from Simpsonville was a pledge of the Delta Delta Delta sorority. She went to Hillcrest High School and aspired to be a real estate agent and lawyer.



Cassidy Pendley
The 18-year-old, first-year chemical engineering student from North Charleston was a pledge of the Delta Delta Delta sorority. She went to Fort Dorchester High School and was voted best smile in high school.



William Rhea
The 18-year-old, first-year student from Florence was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He went to Trinity Collegiate High School where he played baseball and golf.



Emily Yelton
The 19-year-old, second-year student at Clemson from Greenville was a member of the Delta Zeta sorority. She went to J.L. Mann High School and was the girlfriend of Travis Cale.

On the morning of Oct. 28, 2007, a tragic beach house fire took seven young lives in Ocean Isle Beach, N.C. USC students Lauren Mahon, Cassidy Pendley, Allison Walden, Travis Cale, Will Rhea and Justin Anderson, along with Clemson student Emily Yelton, perished. Survivors of the fire, along with the victims' friends and families struggled to pick up the pieces. The Daily Gamecock's coverage of the one-year anniversary aims to honor those who died and to give an account of the reflection the USC community undergoes today. The university, along with their family and friends, will never forget them.

— Compiled by Assistant News Editor Kara Apel and News Editor Liz Segrist

Victims' lives not forgotten

Students who died in accidental house fire are remembered a year later

Derek Legette
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Exactly twelve months ago, a fire started during the early morning hours at a five-bedroom beach house in Ocean Isle Beach, N.C.

The fire reduced the house to mere ashes, claiming the lives of seven young adults and leaving behind six survivors in its wake. Six of those who died were USC students, and one hailed from Clemson. The six survivors were also USC students.

Although the exact cause of the fire was never uncovered, the accidental fire that started on the back deck of the house may have

been caused by a discarded cigarette, according to officials.

Dr. Thomas B. Clark III, a North Carolina medical examiner, said alcohol was found in the systems of all but one of the victims, ranging from .16 percent to .29 percent, and that although it was not a direct cause of their deaths, it may have been a contributing factor.

"Alcohol impairs judgment, slows reaction times and affects coordination," Clark said. "Alcohol intoxication would lower the probability of a person getting out of a burning house and may also have contributed to starting the fire."

Prompting vigils to be held, memorial services to be attended, and university counselors to be available, the tragedy left the communities

of both South Carolina universities to pick up the pieces as family and friends mourned the devastating loss of seven unique individuals: Justin Anderson, 19, Travis Cale, 19, Lauren Mahon, 18, William Rhea, 18, Cassidy Pendley, 18, Allison Walden, 19, and Emily Yelton, 19.

Justin Anderson's friends thought he had a great sense of humor, and many enjoyed his presence. Anderson, a second-year student, was involved with Sigma Alpha Epsilon and loved soccer, wrestling and Carolina football.

Travis Cale was known for always helping people and for playing baseball, all while keeping a smile. Cale was a pledge member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and a first-year business student.

OCEAN ISLE • 4



Christine Galligan / The Daily Gamecock

A student signs a tribute book to be given to the family of Cassidy Pendley at the benefit concert for victims of last year's Ocean Isle Beach fire.



Sports

USC coach Spurrier discusses the ongoing Smelley-Garcia quarterback debate. See page 10

Viewpoints

See who *The Daily Gamecock* editorial board endorsed for the presidential election. See page 6

Opinion..... 6
Crime report..... 2
Puzzles..... 9
Comics..... 9
Classified..... 12

TODAY WEDNESDAY



56 35



59 37

pageTWO

Today @ USC

- Red Cross Week**
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Greene Street
- Bake Sale for Pets, Inc.**
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Greene Street
- Brothers of Nubian Descent**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Russell House, Room 302
- Freshman Council**
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
RH, Room 315
- RHA Senate meeting**
6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Currell 107
- Pastafarians meeting**
6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Leconte 112
- Green Career Fair**
7 p.m.
Green Quad Learning Center, Room 101
- GAMMA meeting**
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
RH, Room 305
- Budget Forum Student Government**
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
RH, Room 203
- Out of State Mentor meeting**
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Student Success Center, Room 302
- Filipino-American Student Association**
7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
RH, Room 205

Q & A with ADMINISTRATOR OF THE

Week

Dianne Dixon, a clinical instructor and director of the External Clinical Practicum

Q: What are your plans for Halloween?
A: None.

Q: What was your last big purchase?
A: I replaced my car, if you're talking really big.

Q: What is your usual coffee order?
A: Black and strong.

Q: How do you plan to spend Thanksgiving Break?
A: With family.

Q: What is your favorite hobby?
A: Needle work.

— Compiled by Halley Nani

PIC OF THE DAY



Christine Galligan / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Elena Gonzalez works in the ceramics studio on her ceramic box assignment in the McMaster building.

Local

An attorney's "uneasiness" over a prospective juror's dreadlocks was a racially motivated reason for striking the man from serving on a car accident case and not sufficient to keep him off the panel, the South Carolina Supreme Court said in a decision released Monday.

In a 3-2 decision, the court said dreadlocks remain "a religious and social symbol among historically black cultures" and dismissing a juror for wearing them was "not a sufficient basis to exercise a discretionary strike." The court sent the case back to be retried.

Two other black potential jurors were also stricken from the same jury. The reasons given were because one was retired and the other had been charged — though later exonerated — in a domestic violence case.

Those factors combined, the court said, led them to overturn the Appeals Court ruling that the trial judge had properly determined there was no racial motivation in dismissing the juror.

In the case, Lakefhia McCrea, who is black, sued Jafer Gheraibeh, who is Middle Eastern, for damages following a car crash. McCrea's attorney claimed that Gheraibeh's attorney improperly dismissed three of six black potential jurors from a pool of 20 people. Each side got to challenge four jurors, leaving a panel of 12 to hear the case.

Gheraibeh's attorney Anthony Harris said race did not motivate him to dismiss the jurors.

"Long hair is not peculiar to any particular race," Harris said. "Dreadlocks are not peculiar to any particular race."

National

ONWAY, Ark. — A shooting that left two students dead at the University of Central Arkansas did not appear to be random, authorities said Monday as the school's president pronounced the campus secure.

Two suspects were being questioned and two others were being sought after Sunday night's shooting, which wounded a third person at the 12,500-student campus.

Though investigators have not determined a motive for the shooting, "It does not seem at this time that it was a random act," campus police Lt. Preston Grumbles said.

Interim president Tom Courtway canceled classes Monday but said they would resume Tuesday. "Our campus is safe," he said.

The victims were shot in an alley. One victim died on the sidewalk. Police said the others rushed into the dorm, where paramedics found them.

Student T.J. Frix of Russellville said he heard five gunshots as he studied for an exam in his dorm room.

"I was like, 'Maybe it's just fireworks,'" he said.

But soon, two bleeding men lay in the hallway right outside his room. Frix said he saw the surviving victim writhing on the floor in pain from his leg wound. Two resident advisers performed CPR on the other man before paramedics rushed into the dorm, Frix said.

University police Lt. Rhonda Swindle said one person being questioned turned himself in, another was pulled over by police during the night and police believe they know the identities of two other suspects.

World

JERUSALEM - Israel moved closer Monday to a bruising election campaign that will decide the future of peace talks, as polls showed the moderate foreign minister, Tzipi Livni, in a surprisingly close race with hard-line opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu.

Neither of Israel's two leading political parties would have enough seats to form a government on its own, according to the surveys, which also showed an even split between the country's hawkish and center-left blocs. That signals more deadlock in peacemaking with Syria and the Palestinians.

Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad expressed concern Monday that precious time was running out, "although I still have hope that we can find a solution through negotiation."

Israeli-Palestinian peace talks were relaunched nearly a year ago at a U.S.-hosted summit, where Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas set a December 2008 target for clinching a final accord. But both leaders have since acknowledged there will be no deal by year's end.

President Shimon Peres began the countdown to new elections at the opening of the winter session of parliament, a day after Livni gave up on her attempts to form a new governing coalition.

"In the coming days, Israel will enter a decisive political campaign," Peres told lawmakers.

Peres said elections were inevitable after consulting with the country's other political parties and concluding that no one had the support to form a government. Parliament now has three weeks to dissolve itself. The vote, Israel's third in six years, would take place three months later.

Olmert, who is being forced from office by a series of corruption investigations, said he would remain in office as a caretaker in the meantime.

Israel's ceremonial president is meant to be a unifying figure in this divided country, and Peres used the occasion to appeal to the parties to work together. "The coming elections can raise Israel up and release it from its various weaknesses," he said.

— The Associated Press

Crime Report

FRIDAY, OCT. 24

Vandalism, 11:40 p.m.

South Tower, 614 Bull St.

Complainant said that an unknown subject wrote obscene messages in the women's bathroom. The messages were nonthreatening.

Total damages: \$50

Reporting officer: C. Thompson

SATURDAY, OCT. 25

Malicious injury to personal property, 9:28 p.m.

1400 Wheat Street, (E-1 Parking Lot)

The victim said that an unknown subject broke the windshield of her vehicle by unknown means.

Total damages: \$200

Reporting officer: W. Jones

SUNDAY, OCT. 26

Malicious injury to personal property, 12:39 p.m.

Bull Street Garage, 614 Bull St.

The officer responded in reference to two people, Kyle Crawford and Cory Swearingen, attempting to set a pole on fire. They said that they were trying to get something out of Crawford's car. A parking lot sign was found on fire beside Crawford's vehicle. Crawford and Swearingen admitted to putting butane on the sign and setting it on fire. Both Crawford and Swearingen were arrested.

Total damages: \$100

Reporting officer: N. Peter

— Compiled by Halley Nani

Bigger is Better!



It is never too early to start looking for a new place to call home and with the largest floor plans in town, washer & dryer in every unit, state-of-the-art fitness center, game room & swimming pool. Copper Beech is a bargain with more amenities than you bargained for.



1051 Southern Drive • Columbia, SC
(803) 255-0170 • www.CBeech.com

Collect the code throughout the month of October and be entered for a chance to win a \$50 gas card.

CODE: 1051 1070 _____

MAURICE'S BARBEQUE

BUY 1, GET 1 FREE SPECIAL!!

BBQ BASKET OR ANY OTHER MENU ITEM!!

Purchase 1 menu item, and get a 2nd of equal or less value Free. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only with coupon. Expires 11-30-08.

COME JOIN MAURICE'S TEAM. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE. MAURICE'S BBQ.COM

Greeks reflect on anniversary of Ocean Isle

Delta Delta Delta sorority, Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity join in mourning

Kyle Moores
STAFF WRITER

Though one year has passed since the tragedy at Ocean Isle, the impact is still felt by many within the Greek community.

Greek Life Director Ron Binder said that these tragedies are when the true values of brotherhood and sisterhood within the Greek community are felt the most.

“These events have a powerful impact,” Binder said. “People want to reach out to you, hold you, be there for you. Times like these are when the true values of Greek life come into being.”

Delta Delta Delta Sorority President Leslie Coones said that the tragedy helped to strengthen the bonds between the members.

“We realized how strong we were,” Coones said. “We supported each other throughout the hard times.”

Coones said the sorority was also helped tremendously by the overwhelming support they received from the Greek community and other organizations across the nation.

“We had overwhelming support from everyone: other Greek chapters, businesses, etc.” Coones said. “People would send in small letters expressing their condolences, and that just meant so much to us.”

Coones also said that it seems hard to believe that an entire year has passed since the tragedy.

“The year just flew by,” Coones said, “It’s still hard to imagine that it actually happened and that so much has happened since then.”

Other members of Delta Delta Delta, including fourth-year fashion merchandising student Rebecca Benton, said they are feeling similar emotions.

“We’re in shock. It’s hard to believe a year has gone by so fast,” Benton said. “We are past the hard grieving. Now we can think of the wonderful memories we had with them. Others, like second-year exercise science

student Sara Davis, still feel some of the pain.

“It feels like a nightmare, something that isn’t real,” Davis said.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon members have had to deal with the anniversary of this tragedy and the recent death of member Ryan DeLoach at the same time.

SAE president Ellison Neese said that these events have been a valuable learning experience for the fraternity.

“We learned to be there for each other,” Neese said. “It showed us not to take advantage of anything that we have, because you never know when something like this tragedy is going to happen.”

Other SAE members agreed with Neese.

Aaron Harkins, a third-year business student, said things have been tough, but that it has strengthened their brotherhood.

“We’ve been alright. The benefit concert went well,” Harkins said. “We’re having dinner with the Deltas tomorrow, and it’s been hard, but it brought us together as brothers.”

Clemson’s Delta Zeta sorority president Lisa Rhea said that the experience has brought their chapter closer together.

“Over the past year, our chapter has grown a lot closer as sisters,” Rhea said. “We have been a huge support system to one another, and especially to Emily’s twin sister and their two roommates, who were her best friends.”

Rhea said that the sorority will be giving out an award in honor of the member they lost at their formal in the spring.

“This award will be given in Emily’s name to someone who has demonstrated humility and leadership within our chapter,” Rhea said.

Rhea also said she thought the benefit concert last week went very well.

“The concert in Columbia was a great idea, and it received tremendous support from students at Clemson and USC,” Rhea said. “It was a fun and uplifting event and something that can be done every year to keep Emily’s memory alive.”

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@sc.edu



Alan Tauber / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sigma Alpha Epsilon lowers its flag to half mast in remembrance of its fallen brothers.



Alan Tauber / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Black bows are tied on the Delta Delta Delta house columns in tribute to the victims.

POSITIVE IMPACT MADE IN WAKE OF TRAGEDY

Bike-a-thon, concert raise money for scholarship, charity

Kevin Walker
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

In the midst of the sadness surrounding the anniversary of the Ocean Isle Beach fire, friends and family thought it best to celebrate the seven students who lost their lives.

Nick Bradley, co-service chair of the Greek Programming Board, said celebration was the motive behind the Inaugural Remembrance Concert on Thursday.

“I felt like it was a good time, especially in this hard time of remembering, to come together not to have a somber tone, but to celebrate their lives in a positive way,” Bradley said.

The concert raised money in sponsorships and t-shirt sales for the Carolina Remembrance Fund, which awards a scholarship annually in honor of the victims.

Bradley, who spoke at the concert, felt it could not have gone any better.

“It was a great success. We had students not just from USC, but also Clemson University, along with friends and family of all seven students,” Bradley said. “We all got to come together not as people from different areas but as friends to celebrate their lives.”

Keith Griffin, the first recipient of the scholarship and a first-year public relations student, spoke at the concert. Griffin said that he was

“more than humbled to receive the scholarship in their honor.”

Kaaren Mann, mother of Lauren Mahon, said she hopes the scholarships will make a difference.

“Each of those kids had so much potential,” Mann said. “You hope that the recipient also has great potential but maybe couldn’t realize it due to financial constraints and this will make all the difference. That’s our hope.”

The Inaugural Remembrance Concert is one of many positive efforts that have stemmed from the tragedy.

In September, Mann and a group of USC students traveled to Washington, D.C., to push for the signing of a new fire prevention bill. Almost a year after Mann lost her daughter, she met someone else who was affected by a house fire.

At a young age, U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., had his family’s Sumter home destroyed by a fire. As Clyburn and his family were standing in front of his home with nothing left but the clothes they were wearing, his neighbor Albert gave him his new suit jacket to wear.

After Mann and the students shared their own story with Clyburn, he felt compelled to move the bill up in the schedule, and it passed the same day. On the return journey to South Carolina, the Albert Project was born.

The Albert Project, aimed at aiding fire victims across South Carolina, held its first event on Saturday with the Columbia Challenge Bike-a-thon. The bike-a-thon featured a seven-mile route around Columbia to honor

the seven victims of the fire.

Evan Craft, a musician from Thousand Oaks, Calif., was also on hand to perform his own song about the fire entitled “The Good and the Bad.”

The amount of money raised as a result is not yet known.

Mann was especially appreciative of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority, whom she said she believed emulated the same kindness that Albert showed.

“They had originally planned on going on a retreat, but cancelled to help assist in the organizational aspect,” Mann said. “Their help was invaluable in making it a success.”

Alongside other fundraising endeavors, the parents of Cassidy Pendley established a scholarship in her honor. The Cassidy Fae Pendley Memorial Scholarship in Engineering is awarded to an outstanding student majoring in engineering.

This year, the award went to Stephanie M. Johnson, a first-year biomedical engineering student. Dr. Michael Amiridis, dean of the College of Engineering, thought it was a good way to remember the promise Cassidy had.

“I am very grateful to the Pendleys for giving us this opportunity to establish a scholarship, and I appreciate the generosity and spirit of this family,” Amiridis said at a ceremony in August. “Their support will enable future students to fulfill the dreams and aspirations that Cassidy had.”

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@sc.edu



Courtesy of JettZone.com

J.L. Mann High School in Greenville was home to four USC and Clemson students who died in tragedies in 2007.

Greenville high school remembers lost students

Three J.L. Mann alumni lost in blaze, another lost in tragic Capstone fall

Josh Dawsey
STAFF WRITER

For their entire high school careers, Emily Yelton, Justin Anderson, Travis Cale and Taylor Cothran were leaders at J.L. Mann High School in Greenville.

“They were all very involved in all the sports and clubs at our school,” said Lizzie Miller, the current student body president at J.L. Mann. “They were all leaders, and everyone knew them.”

Yelton, Anderson and Cale all lost their lives in the Ocean Isle Beach fire one year ago. Cothran died last year after falling out of a fifth-story window in Capstone House.

All four were graduates of J.L. Mann, and their involvement at the school was across the board, Miller said.

Yelton was a captain of the cheerleading team who was “loved by all,” Miller said. Anderson was an “incredible leader” on the soccer team who had friends far and wide. Cale was a “huge baseball player,” and Cothran was involved “in almost everything, from lacrosse to

French Club to band.”

Now, a year after their tragic deaths, Mann is honoring the four by dedicating their spirit week to their legacies, hoping to raise more than \$100,000 to build homes for Habitat for Humanity in the spring.

To honor the four, the school has designed a Web site, JettZone.com, to accumulate funds and provide publicity for the event. Donations to the fund can be made online.

Outside of the Web site, the school will sell food and candy this week. They will also be hosting other events, including a concert with contemporary Christian music artist Jonah Werner, a car wash and a mud-wrestling tournament.

In the past, Mann has raised more than \$100,000 during its spirit week for different causes, said student government adviser Jefferson Duncan. This year, the goal is to raise at least \$120,000 or enough to build two houses, said Student Body Vice President Elizabeth Jeter.

“We haven’t put any limits on it,” Jeter said. “We’ve seen attention this year we’ve never seen before.”

The Web site has seen hits from China, England, Saudi Arabia and Ireland, among other places, Jeter said.



Jonathan Beckman (left) Christine Galligan (right) / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Left: Bikers line up to begin the Bike-a-thon held Saturday to raise money for the Albert Project, which helps fire victims. Right: The Inaugural Remembrance Concert held in Five Points Saturday drew students from Clemson and USC. Right:

Rumors increase in final days

Candidates, staffs work to debunk myths circulating in online message boards

Martha Mendoza
The Associated Press

Barack Obama is not a member of a socialist party. John McCain is not a foreigner. Sarah Palin is not Trig’s grandmother. And Joe Biden is not dropping out of the race.

Oh, and they’re not all having sordid affairs. But it’s rumor season again in this country, and with just days to go before the election, both campaigns are frantically knocking down these rumors — often spreading virally on the Internet — along with a steady stream of other nasty hints and allegations that range from the questionable to the outrageous. One thing you can believe: It’ll only get worse between now and Election Day. “With just days left to go in the campaign, it’s use it or lose it time. If you’re a candidate, now’s the time to get it out, to sear it in voters’ minds just before they go to the voting booth,” said UC Santa Cruz psychology professor Anthony Pratkanis, who researches propaganda and social influence.

The trouble with rumors, as representatives at both campaigns said, is that even refuting them means they are repeated. Nonetheless, they said sometimes you have just to talk about it, explain why it’s false and move on. “It’s obviously an unfortunate development that we’ve seen in this election season, more than in elections past, but ultimately we trust the voters and their good sense,” said McCain spokesman Brian Rogers. Obama’s spokesman Tommy Vietor said their strategy has been to “confront these rumors head-on” with a designated Web site — stopthesmears.com — and to make sure precinct captains are given factual information to counter the “ridiculous false rumors that have swirled in this campaign.” “Our experience is that voters are smart, voters are resourceful,” said Vietor. Recent rumors, mostly floated online and on conservative radio and television talk shows, have lately intensified about Obama and usually come in the form of questions. “Who wrote Obama’s autobiography, ‘Dreams From My Father?’” asked conservative Web site and talk show hosts last week, hinting that the writing was so sophisticated and used similar styles, including “water metaphors,” that radical William Ayers must have been the true author. He wasn’t. Obama was. “Utter hogwash,” said Obama organizers debunking the claim. Although this year’s level of rumors has been ferocious

and bizarre, the phenomenon of whisper campaigns, misinformation, and smears is as much a part of our nation’s roots as elections themselves. Thomas Jefferson was accused of being anti-Christian; his opponents warned that he would destroy the religious fabric and values of the country and promote an orgy of rape, incest, and adultery. John Adams, opponents said, was pro-monarchy and was planning on marrying his son to the daughter of King George III. “These smears are a great American tradition, going back to our earliest contested elections,” said Pratkanis. Eight years ago, McCain lost a strong lead in the South Carolina GOP primary, and possibly even the presidency, after what a campaign aide later described as “a textbook example of a smear.” Using e-mails and push polls, Republican opponents spread the false rumor that his adopted Bangladeshi-born daughter was actually his biological and illegitimate black child. That lie was enough, observers said, to lose South Carolina. For the past two years, Obama faced the vast majority of false rumors in this long election season. But when Alaska’s Gov. Sarah Palin was tapped to be McCain’s running mate, a deluge of rumors began about this little-known Republican from a remote state. Three days after her selection, reporters from a dozen national media organizations including the AP lined up at a Palmer, Alaska, courthouse counter and, one after another, paged through a divorce settlement of a friend of Palin’s to see if she was named as the cause of their strife. She was not. But they’ve sought her baby’s birth records, combed through her meeting minutes, and someone even hacked her private e-mail. Still the rumors haven’t stopped. “Terrible and false rumors have dogged Senator Obama for the past two years, no doubt, but the Republican ticket has quickly caught up. At one point there were 93 separate rumors about Palin,” said Nick DiFonzo, a psychologist and rumor expert at Rochester Institute of Technology in upstate New York. “I think everyone’s a loser in this situation.” Rumors are most effectively floated either when a candidate is first introduced, so that voters see everything that follows through the screen of those initial rumors. Or they’re floated just before the election, so the smears are fresh in voters’ minds when they go to the polls. Andy Martin, a self-described “anti-Obama nemesis,” is the source of some of the most vicious rumors about Obama including current claims that the candidate lied about who is real father is. “Look, the way I see it, one person’s rumor is another person’s fact,” said Martin. He said spreading rumors is “disgusting and I never do it” but conceded that his own earlier claim that the candidate was a secret Muslim, something he repeated on nationally broadcast television and radio talk shows, “is diluted now.” Obama is Christian.



Alex Brandon (above), Jacquelyn Martin (below) / The Associated Press
Illinois Sen. Barack Obama and Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin have had to dispel false accusations on the campaign trail.

UC Santa Cruz literature professor Mary Kay Gamel had a profound, personal lesson about political rumors last month after forwarding an e-mail she had received titled “My Vacation With John McCain” to three friends asking what they thought of it.

OCEAN ISLE • Continued from 1

Determined to go to law school and become a real estate lawyer, Lauren Mahon was a member of Delta Delta Delta at USC. Friend Caroline Delleney said of the first-year business student that she was “full of life and enjoyed each day that was given to her, living it to the fullest.” William Rhea, a first-year student from Florence, was involved with Sigma Alpha Epsilon and made countless people happy with his unique way of unifying people and performing Lil’ Wayne raps, friends said. Cassidy Pendley, also a first-year student, was an active member of Delta Delta Delta, soccer and cheerleading. Cassidy was very smart and loyal to all her friends, according to family and friends. Coming all the way from Ohio, Allison Walden was a true figure of inspiration to her sorority sisters of Delta Delta Delta. The second-year exercise science student lived her life to the fullest, all while studying for classes and staying up-to-date with Perez Hilton’s latest blogs. Many people on USC’s campus remember the event and have expressed their sorrow. Beth Johnson, a statistics teacher,

had one of the victims as a student and thought that she had a bright future ahead of her. “It’s scary how things can change that quickly,” Johnson said. Third-year international studies student Lauren Bryan said it was good for the Greek community to unite after the tragedy. “It was a sad, horrible time, and death is a hard thing to grasp,” Bryan said. In a letter addressed to the “Carolina Family,” University President Harris Pastides expressed his sympathy for the victims and those affected by their deaths. He said the “strength and spirit of the Carolina community prevailed” when the tragedy occurred. “That indomitable spirit and strength have transcended grief and sadness and helped us to begin healing and do remarkable things to honor those who were lost,” Pastides said in the letter. — Information taken from sc.edu — Staff writers Kara Apel and Brad Maxwell contributed to this report.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@sc.edu

SURVIVOR • Continued from 1

everything together.” The six survivors were taken by emergency personnel to Brunswick County Hospital. They were treated with oxygen and then questioned separately by investigators. Afterward, the students waited for their parents to arrive. “We just sat there in complete silence,” Sposato said. “They didn’t tell us anything about our friends, but we all knew what happened.” Sposato arrived back in Columbia the next day. She met her parents, who drove to Columbia from Orlando, and spent the day replacing personal items. “We took care of housekeeping,” Sposato said. “I had no Carolina Card, no driver’s license, no cell phone and no money. I went out with my parents to get everything straight. It gave me an opportunity to get away from the craziness on campus.” Sposato lost her roommate Allison Walden in the fire. She had the task of packing up her roommate’s belongings and sending them back to her family. “As hard as it was, it was

almost therapeutic,” Sposato said. “Everything was still messy. Her dirty clothes were everywhere, and her notes and flashcards were all over the desk. It was untouched, like she had been there and wasn’t ready to leave it.” A year later, Sposato still feels haunted by the event. “This weekend, I was invited to stay at a beach house on Edisto Beach, but I declined,” Sposato said. “It was too close for comfort. And at the same time, it shows you just how typical it is for college students to do this kind of thing.” Still, Sposato said she would not have done anything differently. “I was thinking about this Friday,” Sposato said. “I got to be there during their last weekend. I look at it as a privilege to have been there during their final days.” Ultimately, Sposato hopes students will utilize the time they have with their friends wisely. “Cherish your friends,” Sposato said. “Enjoy the time that you have with them. They won’t be there forever.”

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@sc.edu

MANN • Continued from 3

Former president Jimmy Carter sent the high school a video to promote their work as well. “Celebrate the lives and memories of Justin, Emily, Travis and Taylor with a new life for others,” Carter said in his video. The students who died would have wanted to help others in their community, Jeter said. “If they were here today, they would be amazed at what the student body is doing,” she said. “They wouldn’t have wanted the attention, but they would have been completely taken away.” But more than anything, Duncan said he hoped the families know how important their kids were to J.L. Mann “We know how much it hurts,” Duncan said. “They were great kids. We hurt right along with you.”

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@sc.edu

Federal grand jury indicts suspect in UNC slaying

Atwater, 22, could be sentenced to rare federal execution

Mike Baker
The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — A federal grand jury on Monday indicted one of two men accused in the slaying of the student body president at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, adding on to state murder charges. Demario Atwater, 22, was indicted on one count of carjacking resulting in death, and carrying and using firearms during and in relation to carjacking, both of which could allow federal authorities to seek a death sentence. State prosecutors had already charged both Atwater and Laurence Lovette, 17, with murder in the March 5 death of Eve Carson, 22, of Athens, Ga. Her body was found early that morning in the middle of a residential street near the school’s campus. She had been shot five times, including once

in the head with a 12-gauge shotgun. “It’s a matter of prosecutorial decision making,” said Lynne Klauer, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Attorney’s office in Greensboro. “We have an obligation to bring charges where there has been a federal offense. This is a case where it fits ... federal offenses as well.” Atwater already faces the death penalty if convicted on state murder charges. Lovette can’t be sentenced to death in either state or federal court because the crime was committed before he turned 18. U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey must approve seeking a death sentence in the federal case. Prosecutors said Monday he has yet to do so. The federal indictment also charges Atwater with being a felon in possession of firearms and possessing a short-barreled shotgun that had not been properly registered to him. Federal executions are rare. Only three people, including Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, have been put to death by the federal government since it resumed executions in 2001 after a 38-year hiatus. Executions are even more rare in Orange

County, which includes Chapel Hill and hasn’t returned a death sentence in about 70 years. But Dr. Lawson Bernstein, a clinical and forensic psychiatrist who has testified as an expert witness in both state and federal death penalty cases, said federal authorities have begun stacking charges that could lead to a death sentence in more than one venue to boost the chances of winning a guilty verdict. “This is just the state of the prosecution in these types of cases where there’s a particularly heinous crime,” he said. Authorities believe Atwater and Lovette kidnapped Carson from outside her Chapel Hill home just before 4 a.m., stole her sport utility vehicle and took her to several ATMs, eventually withdrawing \$1,400. Both suspects were arrested separately a week later after authorities released surveillance photos, including one that showed a man reaching toward an ATM from what appears to be Carson’s Toyota Highlander. Messages left with attorneys for Atwater and Lovette were not returned on Monday.

News of Carson’s death led to an immediate outpouring of grief on the North Carolina campus, with thousands gathering for an impromptu memorial service. A massive crowd also attended funeral services for Carson in her hometown of Athens, where she had been student body president at her high school. Orange and Chatham County District Attorney Jim Woodall said Monday that his office had been in communication with the U.S. Attorney’s office regarding possible charges against Atwater, and that their case against him shouldn’t affect the prosecution on state charges. After his arrest in Carson’s death, authorities charged Lovette in the death of Duke University graduate student Abhijit Mahato. Mahato was found dead Jan. 18 in his apartment near the university’s campus in Durham, about a 20-minute drive from Chapel Hill. Stephen Oates, 19, of Durham, also is charged with murder in Mahato’s death. An autopsy report found that Mahato was shot once in the forehead.

Stevens found guilty of charges

Alaska senator could face up to five years in prison for seven counts of corruption

Matt Apuzzo and Jesse J. Holland
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens was convicted of seven corruption charges Monday in a trial that tainted the 40-year Senate career of Alaska's political patriarch.

The verdict, coming barely a week before Election Day, added further uncertainty to a closely watched Senate race. Democrats hope to seize the once reliably Republican seat as part of their bid for a filibuster-proof majority in the Senate.

Stevens, 84, was convicted of all the charges he faced of lying about free home renovations and other gifts from a wealthy oil contractor. Jurors began deliberating last week.

The senator showed no emotion as the jury foreman said "guilty" seven times. After the verdicts, Stevens sat in his chair and stared at the ceiling as attorney Brendan Sullivan put his arm around him.

Stevens faces up to five years in prison on each count when he is sentenced, but under federal guidelines he is likely to receive much less prison time, if any. The judge originally scheduled sentencing for Jan. 26 but then changed his mind and did not immediately set a date.

The monthlong trial revealed that employees for VECO Corp., an oil services company, transformed Stevens' modest mountain cabin into a modern, two-story home with wraparound porches, a sauna and a wine cellar.

The Senate's longest-serving Republican, Stevens said he had no idea he was getting freebies. He said he paid \$160,000 for the project and



Manuel Balce Ceneta / The Associated Press

Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, arrives at Federal Court in Washington, Monday, Oct. 27, 2008. Stevens was convicted of lying about free home renovations and other gifts he received from a wealthy oil contractor.

believed that covered everything.

He had asked for an unusually speedy trial, hoping he'd be exonerated in time to return to Alaska and win re-election. He kept his campaign going and gave no indication that he had a contingency plan in case of conviction.

Despite being a convicted felon, he is not required to drop out of the race or resign from the Senate. If he

wins re-election, he can continue to hold his seat because there is no rule barring felons from serving in Congress. The Senate could vote to expel him on a two-thirds vote.

"Put this down: That will never happen — ever, OK?" Stevens said in the weeks leading up to his trial. "I am not stepping down. I'm going to run through, and I'm going to win this election."

Democrats have invested heavily in the race, running television advertisements starring fictional FBI agents and featuring excerpts from wiretaps.

Stevens' conviction hinged on the testimony of Bill Allen, the senator's longtime drinking and fishing buddy. Allen, the founder of VECO, testified that he never billed his friend for the work on the house and that Stevens knew he was getting a special deal.

Stevens spent three days on the witness stand, vehemently denying that allegation. He said his wife, Catherine, paid every bill they received.

Living in Washington, thousands of miles away, made it impossible to monitor the project every day, he said. Stevens relied on Allen to oversee the renovations, he said, and his friend deceived him by not forwarding all the bills.

Stevens is a legendary figure in Alaska, where he has wielded political influence since before statehood. His knack for steering billions of dollars in federal money to his home state has drawn praise from his constituents and consternation from budget hawks.

Stevens is the fifth senator convicted of criminal charges. The last previous one was Republican David Durenberger of Minnesota, who was indicted in 1993 on charges of conspiring to make fraudulent claims for Senate reimbursement of \$3,825 in lodging expenses. He later pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges and was sentenced to one year of probation and a \$1,000 fine.

The jurors left the court without comment.

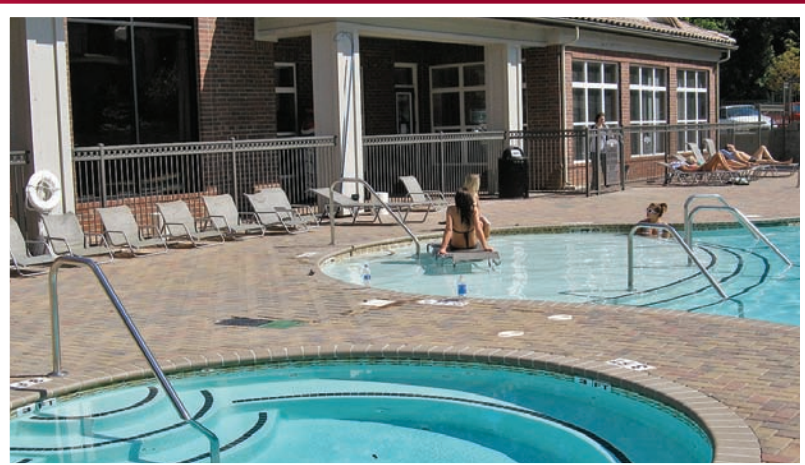
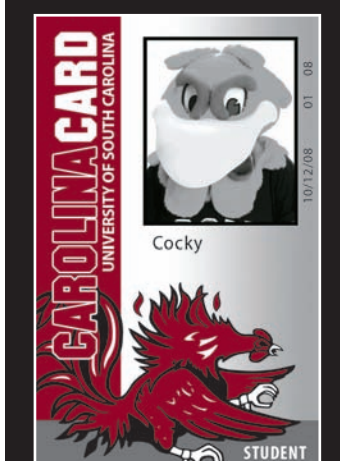
"The jurors have unanimously told me that no one has any desire to speak to any member of the media. They have asked to go home, and they are en route home," said U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan.

The jurors had been shuttled to and from the proceedings each day by court officials.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE @
WWW.DAILYGAMECOCK.COM



**NEW
CAROLINA
CARD
COMING
DECEMBER
2008!**



We've got it all!

Now Pre-leasing for Fall 2009!

Amenities:

Individual Leases
Internet Café
Fully furnished
All Utilities Included
Convenient Location
In-Unit Washer/Dryers
Resort-Style Pool & Spa
42" Flat Screens
Walk-In Closets
High-Tech Gym
FREE Campus Shuttle
Tanning Salon

HARDWOOD-STYLE FLOORS IN SELECT UNITS!

GARNET
river walk
university living

803.939.9209
500 Alexander Road
West Columbia, SC 29169

Education is key to alcohol responsibility for students

In light of past events, new initiative well worth small time commitment, burden

Is this a dry campus? I probably get that question about twice a month when I give tours of our university. I've been trained to answer this question with caution and



LANGSTON ROSS
Fourth-year English student

make sure that parents are put at ease with my answer. Alcohol is becoming an increasing concern for parents, and for good reason. Alcohol is the number one used intoxicant on our campus. That's right — good old alcohol beats out marijuana and tobacco.

It might be hard to believe, but students feel the need to drink at many of their social events off campus. For instance, tailgates, which are second nature during football season, are filled with beer and other forms of alcohol.

In my four years at the university, I have unfortunately read numerous accounts of students dying from alcohol-related deaths. Look at this semester alone: We had a student from Beaufort die with alcohol allegedly involved. Today we mourn the anniversary of the beach house fire, in which alcohol played a role in the death of at least one student and possibly more, according to Dr. Thomas B. Clark III, a North Carolina medical examiner.

So you might ask what can be done, or better yet what should be done? Beginning this semester, the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention and Education launched MyStudentBody.com. This is the same office that offers the Great Gamecock Tailgate before every home football game.

GAMMA, which stands for Gamecocks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol and other Drugs, is affiliated with this office. The MyStudentBody Comprehensive College Health Suite is an innovative and fun way for students to learn more about college health. The different programs, which consist of modules for alcohol, tobacco, drugs, STDs, stress and nutrition, are geared to address key issues sensitively while educating students about the health-related consequences associated with high-risk personal behaviors.

Is MyStudentBody the answer to the alcohol problem? Can it overcome students' irresponsibility? No, but it is a good first step. Some might even argue it's a violation of students' privacy. That is the wrong direction. The real question is: How worthwhile are students' lives?

MyStudentBody.com is only required for freshmen or first-year students under age 23. It is critical that a policy like this has teeth, or it has no meaning.

In this case, the teeth consist of the hold on registration a student faces if he does not complete the course. Beyond being a nuisance, this program has a true goal that will be executed. The deaths on college campuses are mind-blowing, and if it takes a 40-minute survey to get people's attention, by all means let's do it.



NOT-SO-TINY TIM

GM demise may be bad omen

Manufacturers' troubles show credit crunch now spreading beyond banks

Heads up, people: There are about to be some more corporate casualties in this ongoing economic crisis.

If you have not been paying attention to the economy, then it's high time you start. Things are going to start hitting a little closer to home.

While banks have been falling by the wayside by going bankrupt, receiving government bailouts or being gobbled up by the larger remaining financial institutions,



TIM VICARRI
Third-year finance student

it was announced this week that without a cash infusion, General Motors will reach its minimum cash position within 12 months.

To put it simply, they will go bankrupt.

Besides years of mismanagement and a failure to adapt quickly enough to changing markets, the fact that they are unable to get any credit to fill the gaps may

be enough to push this ancient behemoth over the edge.

General Motors is not alone, either. Chrysler and Ford are in the same tough spot.

Heck, if you had about \$8 billion on hand, you could purchase both Ford and GM together almost outright, based on their combined market capitalization. That is not a lot of money (in the grand scheme of things). Each month GM spends \$1 billion more than it brings in.

These companies are in serious trouble.

While I would not peg all of this on the banks' inability to extend credit, it is important to realize that this is something not to be overlooked. As mentioned previously, the Big Three have managed things horribly. However, the current situation is adding fuel to the fire — or at the very least preventing anybody from putting it out.

Basically, people don't have money to buy cars. They don't want to pay for the fuel required to run the trucks and large vehicles that are the bread and butter of the American motor companies. If you thought it was just a bunch of

bankers and stockholders being held to the fire, think again.

So here are the options: Either there will be more government bailouts, or the Big Three (Ford, Chrysler, GM) will collapse. Neither sounds very attractive. Massive layoffs will result either way. More jobless people will increase the speed the troubled market has reached on its fiery descent into oblivion.

This is important. Not only the factory workers are at risk of losing their jobs, but all of their suppliers and all of the dealerships are in danger also. Front to back, many people stand to lose their jobs and businesses over this.

I am not all about doom and gloom, but I think it is important to not kid ourselves. If we can weather the chaos, we will come out stronger and smarter and in a better position to take advantage of whatever opportunities will rise out of the ashes.

But first, it's important to understand the gravity of the situation. We need to be aware of the crumbling walls around us and be prepared for the worst.

The Daily Gamecock

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor
BRAD MAXWELL

Managing Editor
CALLI BURNETT

Copy Desk Chief
AMANDA DAVIS

Assistant Copy Desk Chief
PAUL BOWERS

News Editor
LIZ SEGRIST

Sports Editor
MICHAEL AGUILAR

The Mix Editor
COLIN JONES

Viewpoints Editor
JOSHUA RABON

Design Director
ELIZABETH HOWELL

Photography Editor
CHRISTINE GALLIGAN

IN OUR OPINION

Endorsement: Obama ready to lead country

While the economy slips, the war labors on and forecasts only become more and more negative, this election provides an opportunity to look to the future. It's an opportunity to shape the next four years and shed the gloom to which we have seemingly succumbed of late.

Both candidates have the potential to lead us into the future and the skills to succeed — contrary to consistent media vitriol — and the United States has reached a crossroads of two competent options. Through substantial debate between 12 members of *The Daily Gamecock's* editorial staff, with support and opposition for both candidates, we decided that Barack Obama is the leader our country needs at this critical time.

Obama has experienced strong bipartisan support already, securing the endorsement of Colin Powell and, as recently as Friday, former Massachusetts Governor William Weld. McCain has been known to cross party lines, but for the past eight years he has sided with his peers a vast majority of the time. While Obama's voting record doesn't glow of moderation, the relationships he has established with prominent Republicans speaks to his ability to put aside political differences and connect across the aisle.

One relationship Obama has developed that is particularly encouraging is with former Chairman of the Federal Reserve Paul Volcker. The economic crisis facing the U.S. is at the forefront of most voters' minds

We decided that Barack Obama is the leader our country needs at this critical time.

— and it should be. Frankly, we aren't comfortable with either candidate's knowledge of the economy. Having one of the most respected central bankers of recent memory in his corner gives Obama a

strong advisor to turn to. Part of being a great leader is knowing when to trust in others — and whom to trust.

College students particularly stand to benefit from an Obama presidency. The American Opportunity Tax Credit will create a \$4,000 refundable credit to help cover the cost of higher education. Republicans should also be open to this idea, as it provides educational relief for all qualifying colleges and universities, allowing students greater flexibility in choosing their institution of matriculation. Spending will clearly be an issue of contention no matter who is elected, but educating Americans should be a priority.

As the world grows more competitive and ever smaller, America's role and perception in the international community will become paramount. Fair or not, our reputation has been damaged in recent years, and much as Obama has proven he can communicate effectively within the U.S., we believe he has the ability to cross physical and cultural borders. We can no longer afford to consider international relations a lesser factor in selecting our president.

As mentioned, McCain had strong support among our editorial staff as well, and justifiably so. He has a long record of service to our country, as a senator and in our armed forces where his heroics are well documented. We emphasize that our endorsement of Obama hinges on his strengths and not McCain's weaknesses.

But while McCain has proven himself a capable leader, his party, unfortunately, has not. Without question, part of Obama's success has resulted from the ineptness of the Republican Party the last eight years. With George W. Bush at the helm, Congressional Republicans let spending run amok and pork barrel projects become the standard. While this is not a slight against McCain directly, it is understandable that many Americans are ready to see what the other side can accomplish.

Come Nov. 4, every American will have a decision to make. While our opinion is clear, the only true error you can make come Election Day is not caring. Write a candidate in if you must, but for a few hours of the year, put the interests of our country at heart. On Nov. 5, we will still be Americans and the future will be ours to share.

Something ruffling your feathers?
We want to know.
Write a letter to the editor at gamecockeditor@sc.edu

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

Voice your opinion on message boards at www.dailygamecock.com or send letters to the editor at sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu

CONTACT INFORMATION

Offices located on the third floor of the Russell House
Editor: gamecockeditor@sc.edu
News: sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu
Viewpoints: sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu
The Mix: sagcketc@mailbox.sc.edu
Sports: sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu
Public Relations: gamecockpr@sc.edu
Online: www.dailygamecock.com
Newsroom: 777-7726
Sports: 777-7182
Editor's Office: 777-3914
Fax: 777-6482

About The Daily Gamecock

Editor
BRAD MAXWELL
Managing Editor
CALLI BURNETT
Copy Desk Chief
AMANDA DAVIS
Assistant Copy Desk Chief
PAUL BOWERS
Design Director
ELIZABETH HOWELL
Assistant Design Director
A.J. BIKOWSKI
News Editor
LIZ SEGRIST
Assistant News Editor
KARA APEL
Viewpoints Editor
JOSHUA RABON
Assistant Viewpoints Editor
DARREN PRICE
The Mix Editor
COLIN JONES
Assistant Mix Editor
ELLEN MEDER
Sports Editor
MICHAEL AGUILAR
Assistant Sports Editor
MICHAEL BAUMANN

Photo Editor
CHRISTINE GALLIGAN
Assistant Photo Editor
ALAN TAUBER
Copy Editors
EDDIE MANN, MEGAN VANDERSNICK, EMILY AHO, SARAH LADA, OLIVIA JONES, KENNY DORIAN, SARAH PETERMAN, LYDIA DISABATINO
Page Designers
MORGAN REID, LIZZIE ERICKSON, KERYN SENN, BOBBY SUTTON, TAI VU, AMANDA SMITH, ALEX OTT, CAMILLE HOLLEMAN
Staff Writers
CHRIS COX, JOSH DAWSEY, HALEY DREIS, JIMMY GILMORE, SEAN GRUBER, DREW LATTIER, KYLE MOORES, MARIN MUELLER
Public Relations Director
CAM BYRD
Assistant PR Director
CHRISTINA STRITZINGER
Graduate Assistant

JESICA JOHNSON
Student Media Director
SCOTT LINDENBERG
Faculty Adviser
ERIK COLLINS
Creative Director
EDGAR SANTANA
Business Manager
CAROLYN GRIFFIN
Advertising Manager
SARAH SCARBOROUGH
Classifieds Manager
SHERRY F. HOLMES
Production Manager
C. NEIL SCOTT
Creative Services
KEVIN ARCHIE, A.J. BIKOWSKI, ASHLEY BLEWER-BUDNICK, KALEY WARING, LIZZIE WILSON, TAI VU
Advertising
BEN CRANE, CARLY GALLAGHER, JULIE CANTER, JAYME PIGNELLO, CANDACE REYNOLDS, MEGHAN TANKERSLY, LAUREN SPIRES, NATALIE HICKS

The Daily Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of the editors or author and not those of the Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of The Daily Gamecock. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student-activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.

‘Man on Wire’ reaches new heights

Documentary details high-tension story of man’s tightrope walk between Twin Towers

Jimmy Gilmore
STAFF WRITER

“Man on Wire”
★★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

Many have suggested that movies afford audiences an unprecedented access to the world. They are capable of opening our eyes to wonders we would never otherwise be aware of.

It’s with that kind of awestruck view of the world that James Marsh directs “Man on Wire,” a sublime documentary reconstruction of tightrope walker Philippe Petit’s daring 1974 stunt of illegally crossing the World Trade Center towers.

Some called it the “artistic crime of the century,” and Marsh rather playfully structures his film off the conventions of the heist genre. Mixing talking head interviews with 16mm footage Petit’s friends filmed during the stunt and dramatic reconstructions in black and white to fill in the gaps, the film tries to be as honest as it can.

In his extended interviews that center and drive the narrative, Petit sounds like a seasoned storyteller relaying a great fable, adding dramatic gestures and grandiose adjectives where he sees fit to encapsulate his emotions.

He makes it clear he’s not out to defy the world. He wants to explore it. He refuses to live his life around what could happen. After all, he could easily die — or, at the very least, be arrested. It never really seems to matter, though. The film is so playful and sympathetic it seems to render Petit the embodiment of an awestruck child, and the better for it.

That this film comes out today, in a world that is in many ways still adjusting to 9/11, increases its power and transforms it into a glorious poem. Petit’s fascination with the towers reminds us almost tragically — and almost cathartically — of all the beauty they held.

Never once does the film allude to 9/11, nor does it need to. Its central image — taken



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

“Man on Wire” details Philippe Petit’s tightrope walk between New York’s Twin Towers in 1974.

from the archival footage — of Petit suspended in the air between two of the world’s tallest architectural feats, could instill awe in any era.

But even if the film never references 9/11, it’s hard not to feel its stark repercussions. Almost like a time capsule or a beautiful artifact, “Man on Wire” ultimately feels like a heartbreaking magic act.

Though it’s obvious from the beginning that the team actually pulls off the stunt, Marsh is still able to generate a kind of playful suspense throughout. If Steven Soderbergh’s “Ocean’s” trilogy takes delight in staging the impossible, audiences could stand to dive into this breathless, exhilarating and altogether unique kind of heist, where the key players are not out to take money or make a name for

themselves, but to push life to its limit.

Only 90 minutes long, the film still feels thorough and exhaustive, doing something at which very few documentaries actually succeed — keeping the focus on the subject. There is not a single false note to be found. It is balanced and artistic, never once elongated or meandering.

“Man on Wire” is the kind of beautiful and profound filmmaking that serves as inspiration, the kind of art that exclusively reflects life and turns it into the kind of uplifting poetry the world needs more of.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@sc.edu

Graczykstan: Halloween spooktacular

Pagan holiday celebrators must be wary of dead relatives, angry spirits

I find that certain times of year are what can only be described as “sneaky.” Their arrival never seems evident until immediately before it occurs, and it then immediately vanishes into obscurity after the fact. Such a characterization, I suppose, is fitting for Halloween.

Based on ancient pagan rituals, this objectively odd holiday gives us the opportunity to wear strange costumes and generally act in a manner that would undoubtedly befit ancient pagans. I cannot truthfully say I know the direct cultural evolution of specific Halloween traditions, but I must admit that the whole thing makes me pine for polytheism.

It would seem, though, that even with all of our elaborate costumes and food, with all of the outlandish actions and general mayhem, we are missing the point. Halloween was originally a festival for the dead and,

even more importantly, for their return and the subsequent warding off of evil spirits. People were mindful at these times of those things of which they were afraid, which, if modern celebrations are an accurate representation, would have to have been pumpkins and candy. The ancient methods of celebrating Halloween may lack what we commonly call “sense” by our standards, but perhaps a return to the old spirit of Halloween would prove interesting.

The original principle behind donning the costume and persona of some monster or other likely draws from a reversal of Freudian projection, namely that we attribute to ourselves the qualities of that which we fear in order to feel empowered ... or maybe I am just looking too deeply into this and people just wanted to dress outlandishly.

There also may be a third reason: It is prudent to remember that the spirits of the dead are returning and that they do not necessarily approve of our actions. If you think relatives can be a hassle now, wait until they have been dead for several hundred years and have grown to detest the living. Dressing like a total monster will most certainly detract the spirits from accosting you, and it is unlikely that the spirit of your Great-Great Aunt Melinda will recognize you in that werewolf mask. The carving of jack-o-lanterns also clearly intimidates the spirits by showing them that we are not afraid to take a knife to some fools, and by “some fools” I mean “defenseless vegetation.”

So clearly Halloween is quite a dire affair. It is a time in which we, in accordance with tradition, should disguise ourselves as intimidating beings and stab pumpkins. Nor can we in good conscience make light of any of these traditions since it would offend not only the gods, but also the spirits. And the spirits would

GRACZYKSTAN ● 8

‘Ghost Hunters’ track down viewership ratings

Sci Fi Channel show lets plumbers-turned-investigators take on famous haunts

Aaron Sagers
MCT Campus

Every Wednesday night, two famous plumbers not named Mario or Luigi capture the attention of TV viewers. But it’s not audiences Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson are hunting. Creating the most compelling nightvision video since Paris Hilton’s infamous tape, the Rhode Island-based Roto-Rooter employees are the co-founders of T.A.P.S., The Atlantic Paranormal Society, and stars of the Sci Fi Channel’s “Ghost Hunters.”

Since 1990, when things go bump in the night, TAPS has bumped back. Armed with a skeptical mindset, along with an array of gauges and audio/video equipment that records noises, electrical fields and infrared heat signatures, the group investigates homes, hotels, ships, plantations, prisons, lighthouses and military bases in an effort to debunk purported hauntings.

With current viewership near 3 million for the season, more viewers are consistently tuning in to watch since the 2004 premiere. Last year’s live investigation on Halloween night drew 2.8 million viewers, and TAPS is set to do it again with a live seven-hour program beginning at 7 p.m. on Oct. 31 where the team will investigate Fort Delaware in Delaware City, Del.

When Hawes and Wilson are asked why their show introduced paranormal chats around the water cooler, and even inspired others to launch their own ghost-hunting groups, they respond with the laid-back attitude you’d expect from two family-oriented friends who work together and barbecue in each other’s backyards.

“I think the main appeal of our show is we’re normal, down-to-earth guys,” Hawes said. “We’re not scientists out there talking over everybody’s head... and I think one of the main things is that we’re not



Steve Ruark / MCT Campus

“Ghost Hunters” stars Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson are co-founders of T.A.P.S., The Atlantic Paranormal Society.

a group that was put together to make a television show like most of the other shows out there. We were a group that existed long before the television show, and will exist long after.”

Those “other shows” typically involve a spook crew with British psychic mediums who declare every location haunted. By contrast, TAPS attempts to help families, first and foremost, and seek to prove the existence of the paranormal by disproving claims of activity. The team is among the first to do so and, as such, have episodes where the scariest things they find are leaky pipes and creaky floorboards.

“It’s funny because when we first started off, a lot of people hated us because of the way we saw things and how vocal we were about them,” Hawes said. “We just looked at the field differently, and were willing to call it out.”

Still, when the team’s methods fail to explain the unexplainable,

like disembodied voices on digital recorders, exploding water glasses or human-shaped “shadow people” caught on video, the evidence that remains suggests something otherworldly.

“The only time we even entertain the idea that it’s paranormal is once we’ve exhausted all the science at our fingertips,” Wilson said. “Once we’ve exhausted all our expertise and our knowledge, then we don’t know what it is, we will put it out there for experts to find out. Once they don’t know what it is, then it’s truly paranormal.”

Certainly TAPS wasn’t the first ghost-hunting team, but the “TAPS method” of debunking before believing has had more ramifications across the paranormal field than any of Spengler and Venkman’s work with Gozer. Across the country, normal professionals are clocking out of a day jobs and pulling paranormal night shifts searching for spooks.

“It just seems like everybody came out of the paranormal closet,” said Dave Schrader, host of “Darkness On The Edge Of Town,” a St. Louis Park, Minn.-based paranormal radio show that airs on 100.3 KTLK FM in Minneapolis, and simulcasts on darknessradio.com, Saturdays and Sundays from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

In addition to the show, which has been highly regarded in the community since the January 2006 debut, Schrader and co-host Tim Dennis hold several ghost-hunting getaways and investigations each year at famous haunted locations across the country. The events attract up to 250 paranormal enthusiasts from as far away as Australia.

Schrader partially attributes the success of his and the “Ghost Hunters” show to a renewed interest in the afterlife that’s affected everyone from lawyers to firefighters to, well, plumbers.

Where there's smoke, there's ... Cheech and Chong

Comedy duo reunites 25 years later, swaps Bush for Nixon in updated act

Chris Riemenschneider
MCT Campus

File this one under things I never thought I'd get to say: "Hang on a sec, Tommy, I have Cheech on the other line."

Twenty-five years after their groundbreaking (and occasionally lawbreaking) comedy team went up in smoke — and their movies and albums became the stuff of late-night, up-to-no-good fun for a generation of young fans — Cheech Marin and Tommy Chong are back on the road together. Lock up your daughters, or at least stash your stash.

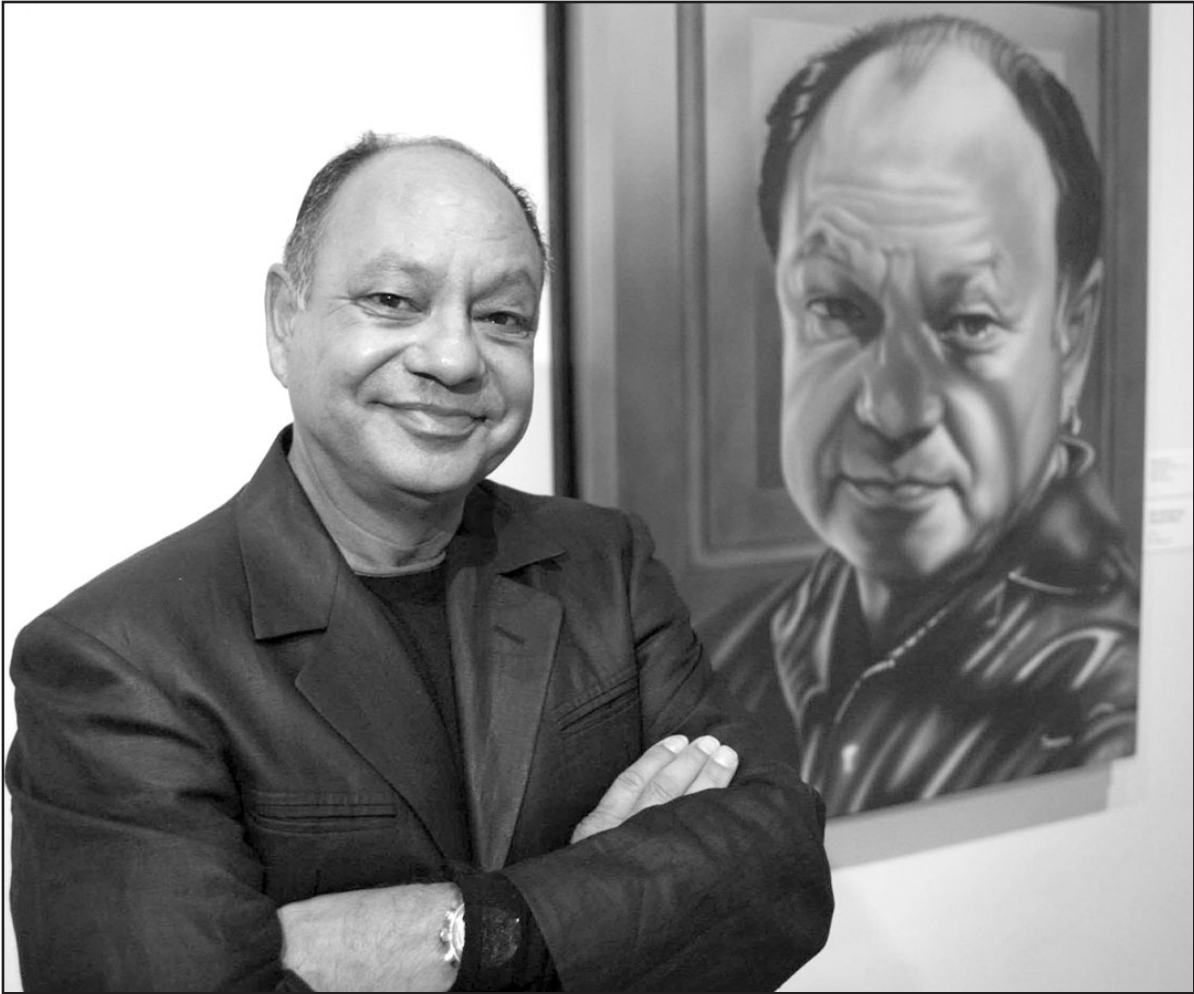
So much happened between the pair's breakup and patchup, it's hard to believe their claim in a duo phone interview that their reunion for the "Light Up America" tour has been "effortless."

After carrying on as a solo comic and recurring actor in the TV series "That '70s Show," Chong, 70, was targeted by a John Ashcroft-led \$12 million federal investigation of drug paraphernalia. His affiliation with a bong-making company landed him in jail for nine months in 2003, an experience he recounted in one of his two books and in the 2005 documentary "a/k/a Tommy Chong." Cheech, on the other hand, became a reputable actor with roles in everything from the "Spy Kids" and "Desperado" movies to TV's "Nash Bridges" and (currently, at age 62) "Lost."

As the longtime comedy partners explained, though, the more things have changed for them, the more they've stayed the same.

Q. Why now?

Cheech: It's now or never.
Chong: Really, we do it for the kids.



Candace West / MCT Campus

Cheech Marin, famous for the "Cheech & Chong" films, is on the road again with co-star Tommy Chong.

Cheech: Yes, the kids are our future. Plus, it knocks off 250 hours of court-mandated community service.

Q. What were your first reunion shows like? Was it like riding a bike?

Chong: They've been incredible. We've been having so much fun. It's been half the work for twice the money.
Cheech: (laughing) It was easier than riding a bike. It was like looking at a bike.
Chong: Like someone else riding the bike for you, and you just have to sit there and watch it.

Q. Your comedy is so tied to the hazy days of the '70s. In what ways has it proven to be timeless?

Chong: The '70s are back, if you

haven't noticed. It's deja vu. Times are messed up again. We're at war again, like the Vietnam War, except it's in Iraq. The economy is tough again. The country needs something to take their mind off all the crap that's going on. That's what we did when we started and what we're doing now.

Q. How much have you had to update your act?

Chong: We can't do Nixon jokes anymore, you know.
Cheech: But all we had to do is substitute Bush for Nixon. He fits right in there.

Q. Recent movies like "Pineapple Express" and the "Harold & Kumar" films show your influence. Does that also make you guys more timely today?

Cheech: I don't think they have much effect on us. Anytime would've been good for us to do this.

Chong: I think you see our influence not only in the movies, but in American culture itself.

GRACZYKSTAN • Continued from 7

be doubly offended since we would not only not take their return seriously but also mock the religion they may have practiced in life.

Furthermore, since this ritual came from the pagan religions of Europe that dominated the continent for thousands of years, and the vast majority of Americans are of at least partially European descent, it is safe to say that to disrespect Halloween is to disrespect our collective heritage. If we mock Halloween, then we effectively mock ourselves and our entire ancestry.

Consider these implications when making your Halloween plans. Would that costume gain you the blessings of your ancestors, or, if not, would they at least find it too intimidating to curse you? Are your plans befitting the spirit of paranoia and mysticism that should define this holiday? Go out there and be original and intimidating — no spirits would mess with Theodore Roosevelt or Buddha, that's for sure. I, for one, am doing my part by disguising myself as David Bowie this Halloween, and if you do not think that can be scary, then find a picture of the man.

Halloween: It's serious business. Benedicitas.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecockfeatures@sc.edu

VISTA BALLroom

Salsa Lessons

Every Tuesday Night!

Group Classes • Private Lessons

1019 Assembly St. • 546.3705 • vistaballroom.net

ESTABLISHED IN CHARLESTON, IL
IN 1983 TO ADD TO STUDENTS GPA
AND GENERAL DATING ABILITY.

OK, SO MY SUBS REALLY AREN'T GOURMET AND WE'RE NOT FRENCH EITHER. MY SUBS JUST TASTE A LITTLE BETTER, THAT'S ALL! I WANTED TO CALL IT JIMMY JOHN'S TASTY SANDWICHES, BUT MY MOM TOLD ME TO STICK WITH GOURMET. SHE THINKS WHATEVER I DO IS GOURMET, BUT I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNOWS WHAT IT MEANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY!

Jimmy John

\$4.50

8" SUB SANDWICHES

All of my tasty sub sandwiches are a full 8 inches of homemade French bread, fresh veggies and the finest meats & cheese I can buy! And if it matters to you, we slice everything fresh everyday in this store, right here where you can see it. (No mystery meat here!)

#1 PEPE®
Real applewood smoked ham and provolone cheese garnished with lettuce, tomato, and mayo.

#2 BIG JOHN®
Medium rare choice roast beef, topped with yummy mayo, lettuce, and tomato.

#3 TOTALLY TUNA®
Fresh housemade tuna, mixed with celery, onions, and our tasty sauce, then topped with alfalfa sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, and tomato. (My tuna rocks!)

#4 TURKEY TOM®
Fresh sliced turkey breast, topped with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa sprouts, and mayo. (The original)

#5 VITO®
The original Italian sub with genoa salami, provolone, capicola, onion, lettuce, tomato, & a real tasty Italian vinaigrette. (Hot peppers by request)

#6 VEGETARIAN
Layers of provolone cheese separated by real avocado spread, alfalfa sprouts, sliced cucumber, lettuce, tomato, and mayo. (Truly a gourmet sub not for vegetarians only peace dude!)

J.J.B.L.T.®
Bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
(The only better BLT is mama's BLT)

★ SIDES ★

Soda Pop \$1.39/\$1.59

Giant chocolate chip or oatmeal raisin cookie ... \$1.59

Real potato chips or jumbo kosher dill pickle.... \$1.25

Extra load of meat \$1.45

Extra cheese or extra avocado spread \$0.99

Hot Peppers..... Free

FREEBIES (SUBS & CLUBS ONLY)

Onion, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, tomato, mayo, sliced cucumber, Dijon mustard, oil & vinegar, and oregano.

\$3.25

PLAIN SLIMS®

Any Sub minus the veggies and sauce

SLIM 1 Ham & cheese

SLIM 2 Roast Beef

SLIM 3 Tuna salad

SLIM 4 Turkey breast

SLIM 5 Salami, capicola, cheese

SLIM 6 Double provolone

Low Carb Lettuce Wrap

Same ingredients and price of the sub or club without the bread.

JIMMY TO GO®
CATERING

BOX LUNCHES, PLATTERS, PARTIES!

DELIVERY ORDERS will include a delivery charge of 49¢ per item (+/-10¢).

\$5.50

GIANT CLUB SANDWICHES

My club sandwiches have twice the meat or cheese, try it on my fresh baked thick sliced 7-grain bread or my famous homemade french bread!

#7 GOURMET SMOKED HAM CLUB
A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#8 BILLY CLUB®
Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese, Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®
Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, and provolone cheese all topped with lettuce, tomato, onion, mayo, and our homemade Italian vinaigrette. (You hav'ta order hot peppers, just ask!)

#10 HUNTER'S CLUB®
A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare roast beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#11 COUNTRY CLUB®
Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham, provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#12 BEACH CLUB®
Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®
Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world class!)

#14 BOOTLEGGER CLUB®
Roast beef, turkey breast, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. An American classic, certainly not invented by J.J. but definitely tweaked and fine-tuned to perfection!

#15 CLUB TUNA®
The same as our #3 Totally Tuna except this one has a lot more. Fresh housemade tuna salad, provolone, sprouts, cucumber, lettuce, & tomato.

#16 CLUB LULU®
Fresh sliced turkey breast, bacon, lettuce, tomato, & mayo. (JJ's original turkey & bacon club)

#17 ULTIMATE PORKER™
Real applewood smoked ham and bacon with lettuce, tomato & mayo, what could be better!

★ ★ JIMMYJOHNS.COM ★ ★

WE DELIVER! 7 DAYS A WEEK

COLUMBIA

2015 DEVINE ST.
803.806.8282

715 GERVAIS ST.
803.933.9595

5910 GARNERS FERRY RD.
803.695.3278

"YOUR MOM WANTS YOU TO EAT AT JIMMY JOHN'S!"®

©1985, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2008 JIMMY JOHN'S FRANCHISE, LLC ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. We Reserve The Right To Make Any Menu Changes.

COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

DOWNTOWN DROP-OFF SERVICE!
Businesses or Individuals • Laptops or Desktops • In-House Service Too!

•Data Recovery

•Virus/Spyware Removal

•Upgrades

•Networking

Tec Support Group, LLC

www.TecSupportGroup.com

1225 Laurel Street, Suite 224 • 803-865-8800

Headliners

MAIN STAGE

700 GERVAIS ST.
Tickets at www.etix.com

TONIGHT

MAN MAN

W/ TIME FITE, THE HEIST
& THE ACCOMPICE

DOORS 7PM • \$10 ADV • \$13 DOS

TRUST COMPANY

W/ THE EXIES, UNDER THE
FLOOD, & VAYDEN

DOORS 7PM • \$15 ADV • \$18 DOS

THE MOVEMENT

"SET SAIL" ALBUM RELEASE
HALLOWEEN SHOW

DOORS 8PM • \$12 ADV • \$15 DOS

BECCA SMITH

W/ DYLAN GILBERT, CHERRY CASE,
CAYLA FRALICK & LIVING RHEUM

DOORS 7PM • \$7

BAUMER

W/ THE NORSES 10 &
PARACHUTE MUSICAL

DOORS 8PM • \$10 ADV • \$12 DOS

HOLLYWOOD UNDEAD

W/ SENT BY THE RAVENS &
SHALLOW PLACE

DOORS 8PM • \$10 ADV • \$12 DOS

THE TOADIES

W/ PEOPLE IN PLANES
& HOT LAVA MONSTER

DOORS 7PM • \$12 ADV • \$15 DOS

PERPETUAL GROOVE

DOORS 9PM • \$13 ADV • \$15 DOS

WWW.HEADLINERSCOLUMBIA.COM

WWW.MYSPACE.COM/HEADLINERSCOLUMBIA

BOOK YOUR NEXT SORORITY, FRATERNITY OR
STUDENT ORGANIZATION EVENT!

EMAIL: HEADLINERSCOLUMBIA@HOTMAIL.COM

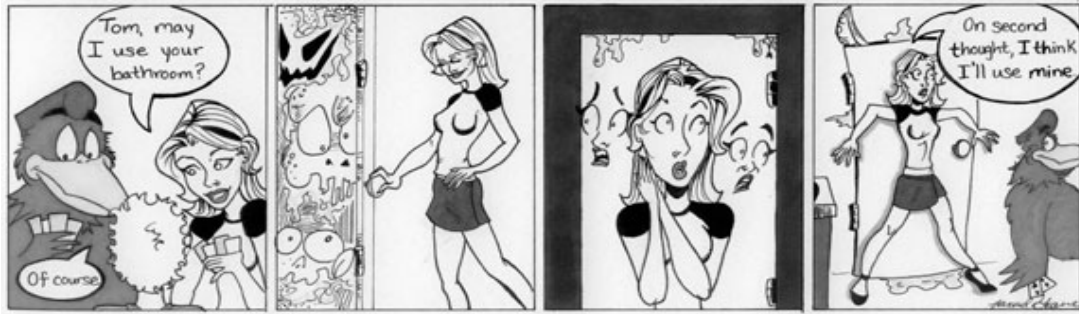
Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock



Whiteboard ♦ By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock



Spurned ♦ By Jarad Greene / The Daily Gamecock



HOROSCOPES

ARIES Your money seems to be going out faster than it's coming in. Plug as many leaks as you can. Stop paying for stuff you don't want, need or ever even use.

TAURUS You're lucky to have a good friend teaching you the game. That's the person who's pushing you ahead, by the way.

GEMINI You're being pushed to produce more and more in less time. This is making you tough, but don't lose track of your objective.

CANCER Express your love, but not in a way that will cost you a lot of money. Passion is highly favored, but financial dealings are not.

LEO This would be a good day to stay home and work on household projects. Let your partner or business associates take care of the other stuff.

VIRGO Every once in a while, you're overtaken by an obsession. You can't get it out of your mind. Hopefully, this is something you'll be able to use in business.

LIBRA Money's coming in, thanks to all your tireless efforts. Don't buy toys with it yet. You aren't getting all that much.

SCORPIO How about doing something that makes you feel better about yourself? A new outfit, a trip to the spa? Get something you've been wanting. !

SAGITTARIUS The more information you uncover, the more thought you have to give to actions and possible consequences.

CAPRICORN Meetings should be lively, but don't bet on a consensus. People feel strongly about all the issues, three or four different ways.

AQUARIUS Concentrate on business. There are big decisions to be made. If you don't get involved, your opinions won't be considered.

PISCES Far horizons beckon, but there's something preventing you from slipping out of your moorings and sailing away. It can't keep you from planning, though.

THE SCENE @USC



MAN MAN, TIM FITE, THE HEIST AND THE ACCOMPLICE
7 p.m., \$13
Headliners, 700 Gervais St.

TODAY

OF ANGELS AND LIONS, FAKE PROBLEMS, LOOK MEXICO, MOVERS & SHAKERS
7 p.m., \$8
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

MAN ON WIRE
6 p.m. and 8 p.m., \$6
Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.

GORE AND FOLKLORE HALLOWEEN TOURS
7 p.m. and 8 p.m., \$5
S.C. Confederate Relic Room

TOMORROW

FROZEN RIVER
8:30 p.m., \$6
Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.

MR. B'S GOODTIME KARAOKE EXPLOSION
8 p.m., free
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

A WILHELM SCREAM, TESTING GROUND, OH CATALINA, MY LOSING SEASON
7 p.m., \$10
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

HISTORIC COLUMBIA "SCARECROWS IN THE GARDEN"
10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free
Robert Mills Garden

Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams 10/28/08

Brought to you by:

DailyGamecock.com

ACROSS

1 Of blood
6 Word of woe
10 Staff sign
14 Red Sea gulf
15 Wrestler Hogan
16 Bantu language
17 Perry and Wilson
18 Jai ____
19 "____ Brockovich"
20 ____ kwon do
21 See 54D
24 Nancy's comics friend
26 Rustling sound
27 Black-and-white bear
29 Strongarm man
33 Walled Spanish city
35 ____ diem!
38 Obvious toupee
39 Perfect match
40 Metric weights, briefly
41 Noted Swiss psychologist
42 Ta-ta!
43 Took on cargo
44 Flock members
45 Answer to an accusation
47 Looks so
49 Musical pace
52 Flockhart role
55 See 54D
59 R. Reagan's Star Wars
60 Currier's partner
61 Cyrano's distinction
62 Hawke or Coen
64 Cashier's call
65 Color changer
66 Bonn waterway
67 Prohibitionists
68 Annapolis sch.

DOWN

1 Stops
2 Match in value
3 See 54D
4 Tad's dad
5 Pasta dish
6 Queequeg's captain
7 Beauts
8 Texas mission
9 Nordic chutes
10 Prague populace
11 Wait in hiding
12 Writer Wiesel
13 "Candid Camera" man
22 City in central Israel
23 Fever with chills
25 Donated
28 Caustic stuff
30 See 54D
31 Alfred of the theater

69 Stock lacking face value

Solutions from 10/27/08

A	C	C	T	S	A	L	S	O	P	W	A	R
H	O	O	E	Y	T	A	T	A	R	I	R	A
S	O	M	E	M	E	N	M	A	K	E	D	E
O	L	E	O	N	O	S	Y	T	H	O	N	G
	A	F	T	A		A	T	E	A	W	A	Y
D	I	F	F	I	C	U	L	T	I	E	S	
A	N	T	E	T	T	A	S	N	A	C	K	S
S	T	E	T		A	N	D		T	H	A	R
H	O	R	A	C	E	A	O	N	E	R	N	A
	D	I	F	F	I	C	U	L	T	I	E	S
C	H	I	A	N	T	I	E	K	E	S		
R	I	N	S	E	C	D	I	V	R	T	E	S
E	L	L		M	A	K	E	S	O	M	E	M
A	L	E		A	G	L	E	T	A	T	A	R
M	S	T		S	E	E	D	S	B	E	S	O

cheep!
cheep!

you don't have to spend a lot to look cheep!

hanky panky, nubra, mary green, le mystere

tullulah

803.765.9982 • 2700 devine street • shopatullulah.com

Sudoku By The Mephram Group 10/28/08

						2	4	
		5			9		7	
6					5			1
		2	9		6			
	6			3				1
			2		4	9		
3		6	5					7
	9		4			8		
	5	7						

Level 1 2 3 4

How to Play
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 10/27/08

1	6	4	7	9	3	8	2	5
2	9	7	1	5	8	3	6	4
5	3	8	4	2	6	7	9	1
6	1	3	5	8	9	4	7	2
7	2	5	3	6	4	9	1	8
8	4	9	2	7	1	6	5	3
9	8	2	6	4	5	1	3	7
3	7	6	8	1	2	5	4	9
4	5	1	9	3	7	2	8	6

Tanner, Johnson receive new contract extensions

USC Board of Trustees signs longer deals with baseball coach, football defensive coordinator after proven records of strong performances

Michael Baumann
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It appears that, in the world of USC athletics, no good deed goes unrewarded. Football defensive coordinator Ellis Johnson and baseball coach Ray Tanner both received contract extensions, the USC Board of Trustees announced over the weekend.

Tanner, entering his 13th year at USC, has been far and away the university's most successful coach in that span, reaching the NCAA tournament nine years running. Tanner has taken the Gamecocks to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb., three times, finishing second in 2002.

Tanner has developed a reputation as a keen developer of talent, as the Gamecocks have also produced several Major League players under Tanner, including Brian Roberts, an all-star second baseman for the Baltimore Orioles. Two former Gamecocks, shortstop Reese Havens and first baseman Justin Smoak, were taken in the first round of the MLB draft this summer.

The longtime USC coach was gracious in accepting the extension, which runs through 2013.

"I am honored to be the baseball coach at the University of South Carolina," Tanner said. "I am grateful to the Board of Trustees [for] extending my contract. The commitment to our baseball program is unsurpassed, from Dr. Pastides to [Athletics Director] Eric Hyman to our dedicated and loyal Gamecock fans. I'm extremely happy to be here, and

I look forward to opening our new stadium as we continue our quest to compete for championships and to return to Omaha and the College World Series."

Before he was a fixture at USC, Tanner spent nine seasons at N.C. State. Between the two schools, Tanner has compiled a 935-416-3 record, including the best conference record in the SEC.

Johnson, far from being an institution, is in his first year as USC's defensive coordinator. Johnson wasn't coach Steve Spurrier's first choice for the position, but after Brian VanGorder jumped ship to take the same position with the NFL's Atlanta Falcons, Spurrier hired Johnson away from Mississippi State.

Johnson has transformed USC's defense into the backbone of the team. Carolina is No. 6 in the country in total defense and first in the SEC, holding opponents to 256.1 yards per game, roughly 70 yards less than Arkansas's Darren McFadden alone gained against USC last fall.

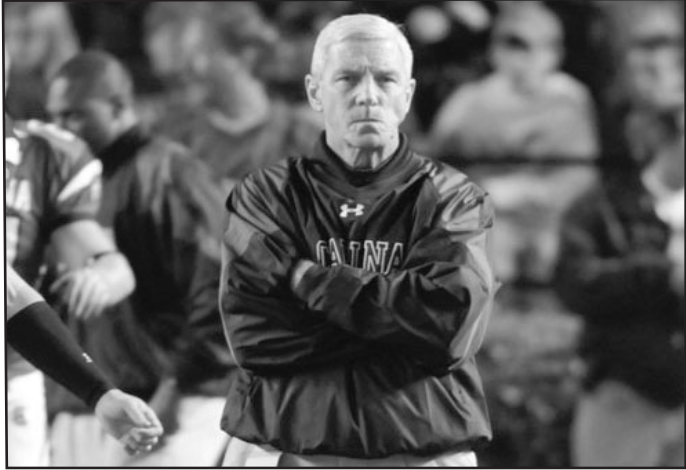
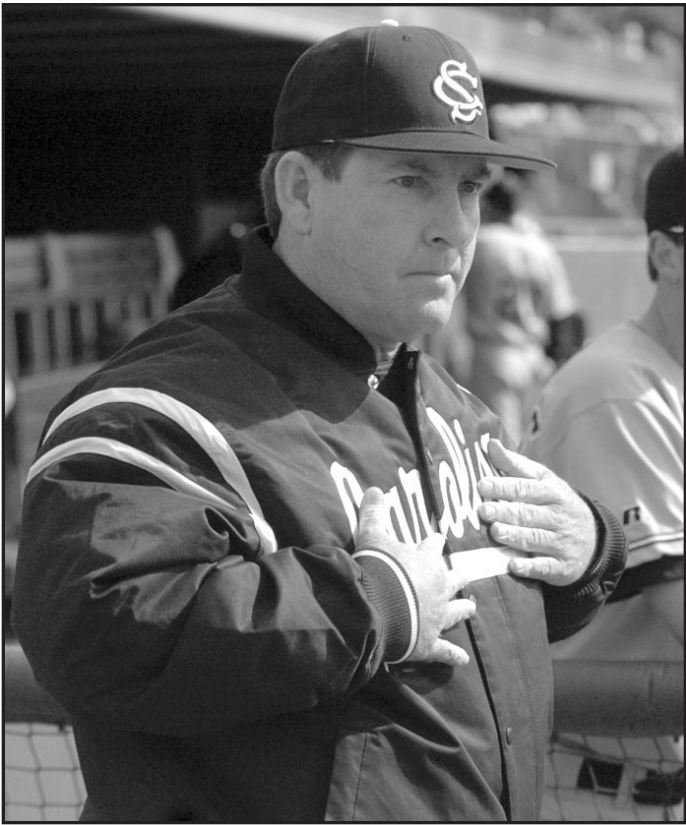
The athletics department and board of trustees were so impressed with Johnson's performance that they added a year to Johnson's contract just eight games into his tenure. The extension will keep Johnson in Columbia until 2011.

Spurrier hopes that retaining Johnson will give him a leg up in recruiting.

"This is a tremendous statement to our recruits that Coach Ellis Johnson is going to be here and that I'm going to be here for several more years," Spurrier said. "Ellis has done a super job with our defense."

USC baseball has begun scrimmaging and will open the season Feb. 20 at home against Duquesne. The football team had the week off and will get back to action at Williams-Brice Stadium Saturday night against Tennessee.

Comments on this story? E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Ray Tanner (top) will stay at USC at least until 2013, and Ellis Johnson (bottom) will stay until 2011.

Spurrier praises assistant, reveals uncertainty at quarterback position

Garcia slated to start against Vols, Smelley could enter in relief

Jake Luce
STAFF WRITER

After Monday night's chilly practice, Steve Spurrier addressed the media and appeared relatively satisfied with his players' efforts.

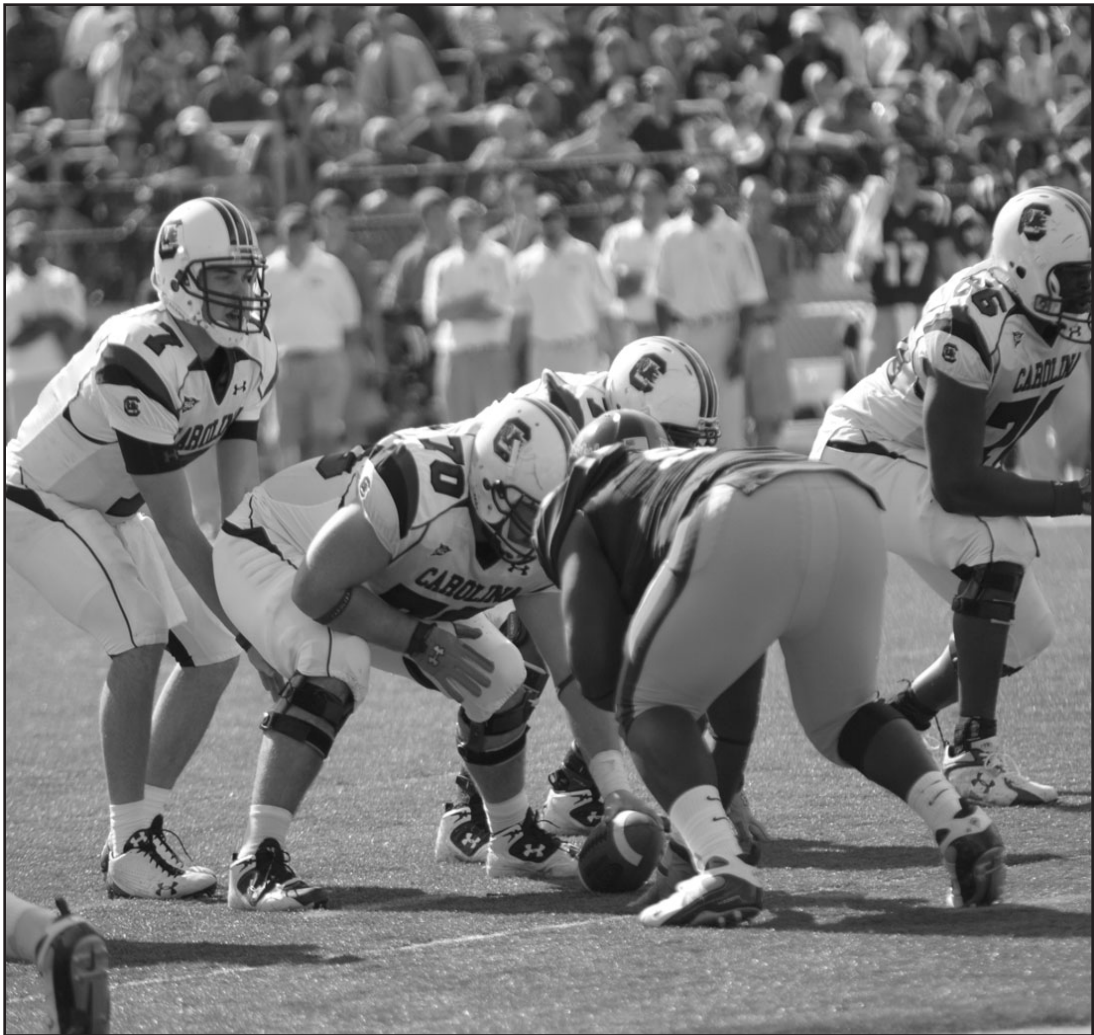
The team should be refreshed from its bye week as they hope to rebuild momentum for the final stretch of the season.

"We have two open dates after the eighth and the eleventh games," USC coach Steve Spurrier said. "I think if we had our choice we would have it after games four and eight, but that's just the way our games fell."

Though the bye week might be coming a little later in the season than preferred, the time off will help the team recover from consistently intense conference competition.

Now the attention has shifted from what went wrong against LSU to what South Carolina needs to do to ensure victory over the Tennessee Volunteers this weekend.

Saturday night's game should provide yet another intense atmosphere for the Gamecocks as they hope to treat fans with their first home conference win of the



Sam Bennett / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Sophomore Chris Smelley is slated to start Saturday's game on the bench, but with USC coach Steve Spurrier's mercurial nature regarding quarterbacks, he may see the field.

season.

Topics of discussion during practice ranged from Ellis Johnson's contract extension to the everlasting predicament of who will be starting quarterback for South Carolina.

Last Friday, the executive

committee of the University of South Carolina's Board of Trustees approved a contract extension for Defensive Coordinator Ellis Johnson.

Spurrier was pleased with the extension, which will keep Johnson with the Gamecocks through the 2011

season.

"[The contract extension] was a part of his original deal," Spurrier said. "We were going to renew it at the end of the year, but we just thought it was a good

PRACTICE REPORT ● 11

No. 8 Carolina falters in second round at Isleworth

Men's golf team looks to rebound from rocky start to tournament

Justin Wilson
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

For the past two days, South Carolina men's golf team has been competing at the Isleworth Collegiate Invitational at Isleworth Country Club in Windermere, Fla. The No. 8 team in the nation looks to continue their winning ways in a field that included 11 other teams ranked in the top 25, including No. 1 Illinois. The Gamecocks had a mediocre first day compared to the other teams in the field and found themselves outside the top five by just three strokes going into Tuesday's second round.

Freshman Wesley Bryan shot a 73 (+1) and had the best opening round of the tournament for the Gamecocks. Junior Patrick Rada followed Bryan on the scoreboard after the first round, finishing strong to shoot a 74 (+2). Two other members of the team, senior Allen Koon and junior George Bryan IV shot a pair of opening round 75s (+3).

The second day of the tournament did not fare as well as the first for the Gamecocks as they found themselves in 13th place on the leader board at the end of the day. The team struggled a bit but still is in a position for a strong final round that

could place them in the top ten.

Mark Silvers III recovered from a shaky first round of seven-over to shoot a 75 (+3) along with his teammates Allen Koon and George Bryan IV on Monday. Silvers had an up and down day that was spotted with seven bogeys and four birdies while his teammate Koon started positive with a birdie on the third hole, but was plagued by bogeys on holes 15 and 17. Bryan IV started off his round with a double and triple bogey on his first two holes respectively, but didn't let the struggles get to him and birdies on three of the final four holes on the front nine. Patrick Rada shot a 77 (+5) for his second round score that included a birdie on hole thirteen.

The top performer from the first round, Wesley Bryan, started his final round strong with pars on each of his first eight holes and hoped to keep his two-day total around one-over, but three bogeys and three double bogeys in his final ten holes did not fare well and he finished the day with a round of 79 (+7) bringing his total tournament score so far to 158 (+8). Bryan did, however, finish strong with birdies on two of his final three holes.

The Gamecocks look to recover from their struggles on Tuesday and finish strong to retain their No. 8 ranking in the country.

Comments on this story? E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu



Paul Beatty / The Associated Press

Richard Jefferson's Milwaukee Bucks might surprise you.

NBA ready to begin season of excitement, surprises

Bucks prepare to shock league; McGrady has shot at MVP

With the World Series winding down it is time for another major sports season to begin. The NBA after a busy offseason will tip off its season Wednesday. The offseason included the emergence of new potential stars through

the draft such as Derrick Rose and Michael Beasley, the demise of the Seattle Sonics and the birth of the Oklahoma City Thunder. Here are some of my predictions about what you can expect this season in the NBA.

Eastern Conference Champions: Boston Celtics

The Celtics look poised to repeat as Eastern Conference champions



AUSTIN SMALLWOOD
Third-year finance student

Paul Pierce, as well as a

after winning their first NBA title since the days of Larry Bird.

The Celtics return all three members of the big three, Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen, and

majority of last year's key role players. The Eastern Conference outside of the Celtics and Detroit Pistons is fairly pedestrian, which makes the road for the Celtics to repeat much easier. If the Celtics can maintain the intensity that made them so great last season there is no reason that they should not represent the Eastern

NBA ● 11

PRACTICE PREVIEW • Continued from 10

time to announce it because everybody is happy.”

Everyone should be happy with the contract extension as the first-year defensive coordinator has put Carolina on the map as one of the best defenses in the country. With All-American candidates like junior safety Emanuel Cook and junior linebacker Eric Norwood, the job may be considered easy, but Johnson has been successful in getting those players to contribute to their full potential.

“Our defense has played exceptionally well this year,” Spurrier said. “It is one of the highest-ranked defenses in the history of the school, so he is certainly worthy and hopefully it will help recruiting at this time of year.”

“Ellis’s defense is a good one,” Spurrier said.

“Hopefully a lot of high school kids will want to play defense for Carolina.”

The Gamecocks’ defense is currently ranked at the top of the SEC, a conference that boasts tremendous talent defensively from defending national champions to consistent bottom-dwellers.

The other issue addressed was that of the ongoing battle for starter at quarterback. The competition features mobile redshirt freshman Stephen Garcia against sophomore Chris Smelley.

“Right now we are planning on Stephen Garcia starting,” Spurrier said. “But if Chris Smelley has a much better week in practice, it could be Smelley starting by the weekend.”

Comments on this story? E-mail sageckspt@mailbox.sc.edu



Ben Fine/ THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Stephen Garcia’s job might not be secure just yet.

NBA • Continued from 10

Conference in the Finals again in 2009.

Western Conference Champions: Los Angeles Lakers

The Lakers look to also reclaim their title as conference champions; however, the road to the Finals in the West is much steeper than that in the East. With that being said the Lakers arguably have the best player in the league, Kobe Bryant, as well as the best starting five in the NBA. This year’s lineup should be even stronger as the Lakers get center Andrew Bynum back from a knee injury that sidelined him the second half of last season.

Bynum’s return will allow Pau Gasol to return to his natural position of power forward. Kobe Bryant is hungry for a title in order to silence his critics that say he cannot win without Shaq. If Kobe is going to win a title this is the year to do it because the Lakers have the best lineup in the league and a hall of fame coach of the bench in Phil Jackson.

Surprise Team: Milwaukee Bucks

The Bucks quietly had a very productive offseason, which should translate to dramatic improvement from last year’s squad that failed to make the playoffs. The Bucks were able to acquire Richard Jefferson from the Nets in a draft day trade. Jefferson will provide a solid scoring threat to relieve pressure off of Michael Redd.

The Bucks also hired former Bulls coach Scott Skiles to lead their young squad. Skiles will bring discipline and strong defensive principles to a Bucks team that has been labeled as soft in the past. The Bucks present



Kevork Djansezian / The Associated Press

The Lakers expected to repeat as Western Conference champions in ‘08-’09.

an interesting combination of perimeter and inside play with Reed and Jefferson as well as skilled big man Andrew Bogut in the middle.

In an Eastern Conference, where a losing record still makes you a playoff contender, the Bucks should make a run in the regular season and possibly lock up a top four seed leading to a home playoff series.

Most Valuable Player: Tracy McGrady, guard Houston Rockets

The Rockets look to be one of the primary challengers of the Lakers in the Western Conference this season. The Rockets have all their key players from last season back including a now healthy Yao Ming. The Rockets also made a trade in the offseason which should lead to great success when they acquired Ron Artest from the Kings.

Artest provides the Rockets with another legit scoring threat as well as the best on ball defender in the league. With Artest, McGrady can focus more on the offensive side of the ball as Artest will be guarding the opponent’s top offensive weapon.

McGrady will still remain the top scoring threat for the Rockets, but the presence of other all-stars on the roster will allow him to distribute the ball and take on more of a playmaker role. Artest and a healthy Yao will also reduce the number of double teams that McGrady will receive, which should allow for him to get more open looks.

If McGrady, Yao and Artest can stay healthy the Rockets will make a case for the top seed in the West, which could result in a MVP for McGrady.

QUALITY SERVICE AT REASONABLE PRICES!

Master Tire and Auto Center

1809 Gervais St. (corner of Barnwell St.) • (803) 799-2570

- Locally owned and operated.
- One-step automotive service center.
- ASE Certified Technicians
- 90 Days Same As Cash and Financing Available.
- Nationwide warranty on Repairs and Tires.
- Open Mon-Fri 7:30-5:30, Sat. 8:00-2:00
- Free Estimates.
- Student & Faculty Discount

**EARN \$40 TODAY.
\$80 THIS WEEK.**

*Eligible new donors

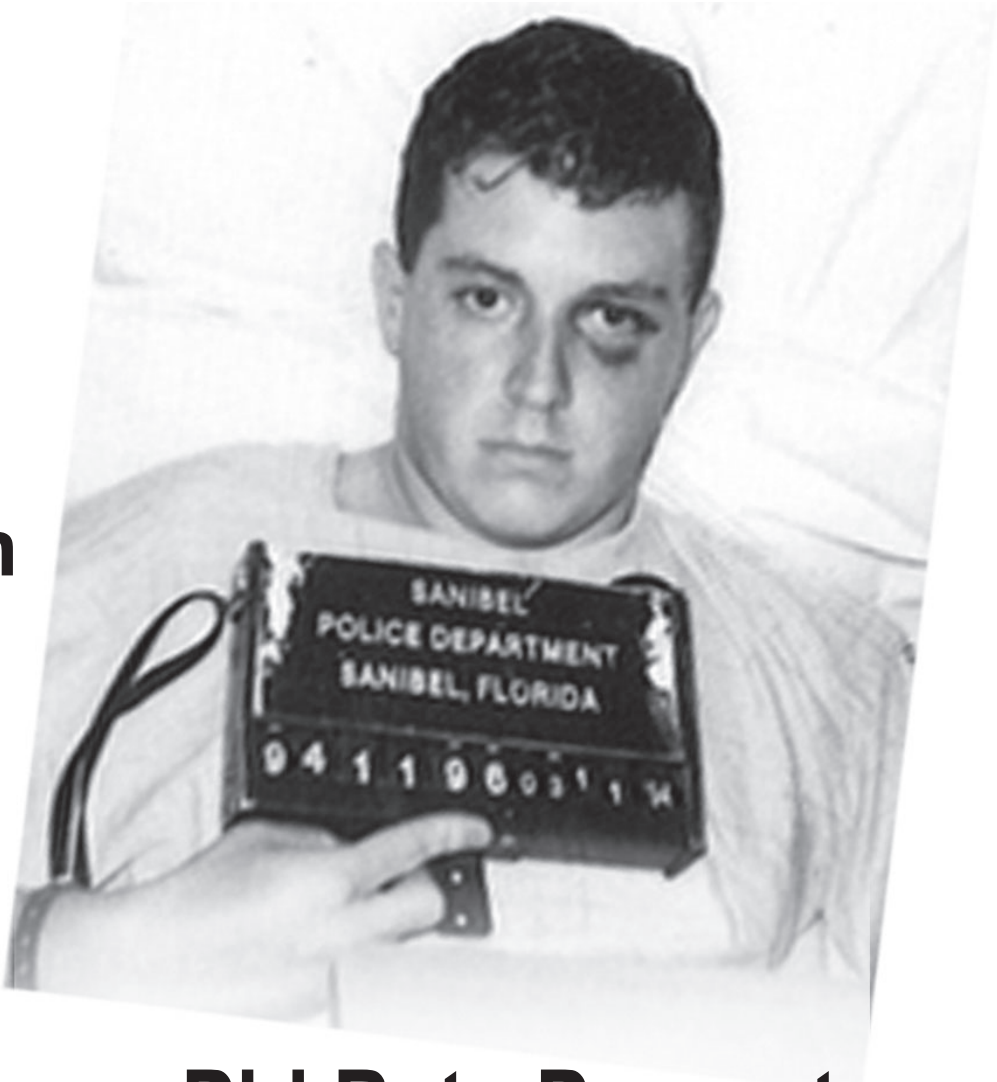
**CASH IN YOUR POCKET.
DONATE PLASMA.
IT PAYS TO SAVE A LIFE.**

215 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC 29201
803.254.2280 • zlbplasma.com

Fee and donation times may vary. New donors bring photo ID, proof of address and Social Security card.

ZLB Plasma
Good For You. Great For Life.

- 5
- fraternity brothers
- 4
- years of college
- 3
- months to graduation
- 2
- bad decisions
- 1
- unforgettable story



Alpha Delta Pi & Gamma Phi Beta Present

MARK STERNER

DUI: A Powerful Lesson

October 29, 2008 7:00 P.M.
Russell House Ballroom
Free Admission

Place a Classified ad: p **803-777-3888** • f 803-777-6482 • **www.dailygamecock.com**

The Daily Gamecock classifieds

Line classified ad rates

First insertion: \$2.50 per line
Subsequent: \$1.50 per line

DEADLINE

Noon, 1 business day prior to publication

Additional Info

Two-line minimum
Lines average 30 characters in length

Additional options

Box around ad: \$1.25
Logo insertion available for an additional cost

Major credit cards accepted



E-mail: **sholmes@mailbox.sc.edu** • Office hours: **M-F 8:30 am - 5 pm** • Russell House, Rm. 343

Apartments

Sub-Leaser Needed Spring Semester
Olympia Mills 3BR \$417/mo \$25/cable & \$25/power. Call 864-617-5393

4 - 2BR 1BA Apts. 303 King St. - All hd wd flrs, appl. & 2/d. Front porch w/plenty of pkg. \$895. Call Ray @ 331-8833.

Rosewood Duplex w/laundry. Newly renov. w/ CH&AC laundry free water & lawn care. Pets ok. Call 240-1675

Efficiency 1&2 BRS Start at \$700
All utilities, cable, high speed Internet \$100 sec. deposit/1 mo. free with a 12 MO. LEASE Cornell Arms 799-1442

Housing-Rent

Apartments & Homes Near USC
Hawkins Properties 799-0804



Help Wanted

PT REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT.
Experience the real world! Need PT personal asst. to Columbia's Biggest Realtor. Learn Real Estate Development/Sales from the ground up. Once in a life time opportunity.
Joe Hawk 361-2461

CarolinaCallers
We have the best job on campus!! Make \$8.25 per hour!! Build your resume, earn great bonuses, and show your Gamecock pride!! More info? Want to come to an interview session?
Interested in applying? Email: Jessica.Neno@ruffalocody.com or call 7-4705

BARTENDING up to \$250/day . No exp nec, training prov'd 800-965-6520 X 253.

YMCA OF COLUMBIA - PT Staff Needed:
After school, lifeguards, aerobics, pilates & water aerobics, CDL Drivers with passenger endorsement.
Contact Saralyn @ 799-5159 x19 or saralynhatchell@columbiaymca.org

**Help Wanted
Instructors**

NOW HIRING!
THE SWIM LESSONS COMPANY
Apply today for Fall & Winter Instructor positions with The Swim Lesson Company. Complete training and free uniform provided. Good Pay-start@ \$10/hr..
Call or Text Jim at 665-8709.

Services

EGG DONORS NEEDED
We are seeking intelligent, attractive, non-smoking women between the ages of 21-29 who are physically fit and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. \$1000 plus all expenses. If you have a desire to help an infertile family please contact us.
Email: **darlene@aperfectmatch.com**
1-800-264-8828
www.aperfectmatch.com
Perfectly matching donors with families since 1998

PREGNANT, NEED HELP? FREE pregnancy test Call Birthright 765-0165

Serious financial problems?
Confidential bankruptcy advice. Start fresh. Free consultations. 779-1700
www.MatthewsandMagna.com

Doing it daily.
www.dailygamecock.com

Our classifieds reach more than 30,000 students, faculty & staff.
Advertise with
The Daily Gamecock
call: **777.3888**
online submissions:
www.dailygamecock.com

garnet&black
...on newsstands NOW!

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Daily Gamecock

**Editor in Chief
Spring 2009**

The Daily Gamecock, University of South Carolina's student newspaper, is looking for an Editor in Chief for Spring 2009. Applicant must be of junior or senior standing, maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, and have at least one year experience at the newspaper (or equivalent). Applicant must submit samples of work, completed application form and three letters of reference. Application and job description available at: Office of the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Russell House 112
Online at: www.sa.sc.edu/studentmedia or www.dailygamecock.com

**DEADLINE
FOR COMPLETING APPLICATIONS:
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2008 AT NOON
RUSSELL HOUSE 112**

Now is the time to
TAKE THE NEXT STEP.

aspyre is now accepting lease applications.
Don't miss your opportunity to live beyond the ordinary. Phase One is filling up fast!

Property Features: 5 courtyards 2 pools Four-sided outdoor fireplace Car wash 24-hour fitness center Wi-fi Dog park Gated resident-only structured parking Club room, gaming station, flat screen, & bar area Business center/computer lab

aspyre
at assembly station
iaspyre.com

Now leasing!
For more information or to fill out an application, visit **iaspyre.com**, call **803-400-1570** or stop by our sales office at **1000 Whaley Street** today.